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CONTENTS

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INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

DISARMAMENT/START/MBFR

U.S. 'Destroying Dialogue' on Arms Reduction [Shishlin] AA 1
U.S. Missile Development Plans Viewed [Vasilyev] AA 1
Observer Condemns U.S. 'Militarist Program' [Zubkov] AA 2
Academician on West's New 'Operation Dialogue' [Yakovlev] AA 3

COMMUNIST RELATIONS

Institute Head on CEMA Economic Growth [Shiryayev] BB 1

WORLD & REGIONAL ISSUES

U.S.-European Policy 'Disagreements' Viewed
[Shishkin in SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA 23 Dec] CC 1
'Stormy, Troubled' 1983 Relations Reviewed [Shishlin] CC 2
Past Year Showed AntiWar Movement 'Upswing'
[Serebrennikov] CC 4
U.S. Alone Opposed UN Space Resolution CC 5

UNITED STATES & CANADA

Reagan Defense of Arms Buildup 'Wishful Thinking'
[Reshetnikov] A 1
U.S. 'Striving To Intensify Confrontation' at Sea
[Markov] A 2
Reagan To Keep Near East, C. America Policies A 2
Shultz Speech 'Distorts Truth' on Grenada
[Kozyakov] A 3
Book on CIA 'Terrorism' in Grenada Reviewed A 4

CHINA

PRC Support for 'Democratic Kampuchea' Scored B 1

NORTHEAST ASIA

Fishery, Port Call Accord Reached With Japan [KYODO] C 1
'No Changes' Foreseen From New Nakasone Cabinet
[Biryukov] C 1

SOUTH ASIA

Babrak Karmal's 'Glorious History' Praised D 1
Trade Protocol With Afghanistan Signed in Moscow D 2
KABUL NEW TIMES Scores U.S. Aid to Rebels D 2
DRA Press Conference Hits Foreign 'Interference' D 3

'Ominous' U.S. 'Threat' Cited [Baykov] D 3
'Strike Force' Scored [Ponomarev] D 4
Afghanistan's 1983 'Accomplishments' Praised [Volkodav] D 5
Indian Parties Plan Anti-Nuclear War Campaign D 6
CIA's 'Scandalous Failures' in India 'Unmasked' [Zholkver] D 6
Soviet Envoy Interviewed by Pakistani Paper [Rawalpindi NAWA-E WAQT 7 Dec] D 7
Pakistani Opposition Seeks End to Martial Law D 9

SOUTHEAST ASIA & PACIFIC

CPSU Group in Laos for Party Organization Talks [PRAVDA 23 Dec] E 1
Ogarkov, Kulikov, Others Awarded SRV Order E 1
Increased U.S. Military Aid to Thailand Noted E 1

EASTERN EUROPE

Honecker on U.S., Soviet Missile Deployment F 1
Hungarian Assembly Adopts Missile Protest F 1
Jaruzelski Receives Supreme Soviet's Ruben 21 Dec [IZVESTIYA 23 Dec] F 2
Supreme Soviet Delegation Attends Polish Sejm [PRAVDA 23 Dec] F 2
Nuriyev-led Delegation Ends Poland Visit F 2
Polish-Soviet Friendship Society Congress Ends [IZVESTIYA 21 Dec] F 2
Friendship Cooperation Protocol Signed F 4
TRUD Recalls Soviet War Sacrifices for Poland [Vasilikov, 18 Dec] F 4

WESTERN EUROPE

U.S. Tightening Security at European Bases [Kuznetsov] G 1
U.S. Actions Toward Turkish Cyprus 'Hypocrisy' [Serebrennikov] G 1
U.S.-Greek Defense Cooperation Examined G 2
U.S. Pressure, Interference in Spain Criticized [Akimov] G 3
French TU Leader Krasucki on Visit to USSR [TRUD 17 Dec] G 4

MIDDLE EAST & AFRICA

U.S. Fears 'Remaining Alone' in Lebanon [Olin] H 1
U.S. 'Not Applying Any Brakes' in Mideast Policy [Lapin] H 1
Israeli 'Raids' on Lebanese Territory Decried [Popov] H 2
Correction to Italy's Urging Lebanon Withdrawal H 3
Reagan Extends Libyan Import Ban as 'Punishment' H 3
Soviet-Libyan Friendship Days Marked in Turkmenistan [TURKMENSKAYA ISKRA 13 Dec] H 3
Supreme Soviet Congratulates Bahrain Amir H 4
Afghan Refugees Conduct Activities in Iran H 4

SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

Sierra Leone's Ambassador Departs Moscow J 1
USSR's Ryzhov Receives Ghanian Envoy 22 Dec J 1
[IZVESTIYA 23 Dec]
Angola Reports S. African Air, Ground Attacks J 1
'Terrorist Groups' U.S. 'Tool' in S. Africa [Matveyev] J 1
More Shelling of Angola by S. Africa Noted J 2
[Semenov, Makhonin]
Angola's Jorge Denounces U.S. 'Vicious Policy' J 3
Senegalese Police 'Clash' With Separatists J 3
[PRAVDA 21 Dec]
Commentator Views Ethiopian Party Organization J 4
[Fedorov]

LATIN AMERICA & CARIBBEAN

Plot to Assassinate Guyanese President Uncovered K 1
Guyana Investigates Plot K 1
Cuba's Rodriguez Cited on C. America, U.S. K 1

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

SUPREME SOVIET

Supreme Soviet Presidium Reviews Plenum's Work P 1
[IZVESTIYA 28 Dec]
Council of Elders, Soviet of Nationalities Meet P 2
Supreme Soviet Goes Into Session 28 Dec P 2
Leaders in Attendance P 2
Andropov Absent [Vienna ORF] P 3
Baybakov Delivers Report P 3
Garbuzov Reports on Budget P 4

POLITICAL & SOCIAL DEVELOPMENTS

CPSU Central Committee Plenum Decision R 1
[PRAVDA 28 Dec]
Andropov Signs Electoral Commission Decision R 4
Commission Members Listed R 4
CPSU Resolution on Party Work Style Promoted R 4
[Editorial in PRAVDA 22 Dec]
Vorotnikov Attends RSFSR Council Session R 6
Shcherbitskiy Addresses Kiev Party Conference R 6
Shevardnadze Attends Georgian CP Bureau Session R 7
[ZARYA VOSTOKA 16 Dec]
Shevardnazde Attends Memorial Meeting in Tbilisi R 8
Dolgikh, Arkhipov Attend Moscow Soiree 21 Dec R 8
Uzbek Supreme Soviet Meets, Elects Chairman R 8
Further Details R 10
Denisenko Appointed New Latvian Deputy Premier R 10
[SOVETSKAYA LATVIYA 13 Dec]

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS

Natural Gas Production Increasing Rapidly S 1
[Filonovskiy]

AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS

CSA Announces Agricultural Pledges Fulfilled T 1
[PRAVDA 23 Dec]
Difficult Farming Year, Achievements Reviewed T 2
[Ivashchenko]

SCIENTIFIC AFFAIRS

TASS Reports 21 Dec Launch of Molniya-3 U 1
Cosmos-1516 Satellite Launched 27 December U 1
Cosmos-1517 Launched, Splashes Down in Black Sea U 1

MILITARY DEVELOPMENTS

More on 21 Dec Moscow Military District Meeting V 1
[Barnev, Zhitarenko in KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 22 Dec]
Yepishev Addresses Academy Party Conference V 4
[Naumov in KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 22 Dec]

U.S. 'DESTROYING DIALOGUE' ON ARMS REDUCTION

LD252227 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1500 GMT 25 Dec 83

[From the "International Panorama" program presented by Nikolay Shishlin]

[Excerpt] West German Chancellor Kohl, incidentally, recently sent messages to leaders of the Warsaw Pact member countries. In this message, he attests to West Germany's adherence to the policy of peace and speaks, by the way, not of peace a la Reagan, but of peace from the position of agreement, moderation, and reciprocity. Good words on the whole.

Unfortunately, however, such arguments as Pershing II and cruise missiles on the territory of West Germany and a number of other Western European states outweigh these words. I should nevertheless like to say that real concern at the state of affairs has increased in West European capitals. It is no accident that as the year comes to a close, many ideas and thoughts are being put forward aimed at feeling out the opportunities for improving the world political climate. Quite rich and meaningful ideas are expressed by Willy Brandt. Canadian Prime Minister Trudeau favors some sort of meeting between the five nuclear powers. French President Mitterrand also advocates -- in somewhat diffuse expressions, it is true -- reduction of East-West tension and overcoming the confrontation between countries having different social systems.

It is, however, the United States that through its actions is destroying dialogue, broad dialogue. Concerning the Soviet Union, there is no need to try and convince it of the need to conduct negotiations and of the usefulness of negotiations -- that is of serious negotiations. I want to recall the words of Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov. He says in his statement: We are opposed in principle to rivalry in manufacturing and stockpiling weapons of mass destruction. This is not our way; it cannot lead to solution of any of the problems facing mankind, the economic development of states, conservation of the environment, establishment of just the basic conditions for people's lives -- their food, health and education. The Soviet Union believes that the colossal material, intellectual, and other resources which are today spent on the arms race should be allocated for creative purposes.

U.S. MISSILE DEVELOPMENT PLANS VIEWED

LD211531 Moscow in English to North America 0001 GMT 21 Dec 83

[Text] The present missile deployment in Europe is part of United State's plans to prepare a first, or disarming strike. This, our military observer Aleksey Vasilyev believes, constitutes the most dangerous element of the Reagan administration's policies. And Aleksey Vasilyev elaborates in these words:

The deployment of American Tomahawks and Pershing II's in European soil should of course be considered in the context of the administration's overall nuclear strategy. Indeed the United States is simultaneously working on a wide range of programs to develop many other sophisticated weapons. Their distinctive characteristics are higher accuracy and greater destructive power. The United States is developing two new, intercontinental ballistic missiles, the MX and Midgetman, and two new kinds of bombers, and is building Trident II missiles for submarines and several kinds of cruise missiles. All these nuclear weapons, like the missiles the United States is deploying in Europe, are first strike weapons, which destabilize the situation to dangerous limits. At the same time the United States has launched programs to develop antimissile systems for space basing.

In his star wars speech last March, President Reagan announced the development of some kind of comprehensive air defense system, to be deployed in outer space. So what we have is the following: On the one hand the United States creating a capability to deliver a first nuclear strike both with the help of its strategic forces and with medium-range forces. On the other hand, by developing antimissile space based systems the United States hopes to thwart a retaliatory strike. Of late, American leaders have been making all kinds of speeches to try to cover up the aggressive nature of their nuclear strategy, specifically by professing a wish to seek arms limitation and reduction. But this is nothing but hot air. In actual fact, the nuclear rearmament of the United States and the installation of American nuclear missiles in Western Europe speak better than words, and besides there have been explanations provided in the form of Pentagon directives and doctrines in favor of a limited nuclear war and a protracted nuclear war and what not.

The present American leadership has embarked upon a course that is fraught with great danger for the entire world, and part of the strategy, to prepare for nuclear war, is the deployment of new American missiles in Europe. It is natural for the Soviet Union to take countermeasures in these circumstances to improve its defenses. As Soviet leaders repeatedly said, at the deployment of any weapons systems by the United States and the resulting growth of the threat to this country, the Soviet Union will respond by developing similar systems which will place the United States in an analogous situation. These measures are being taken now. Their aim, as President Yuriy Andropov said, in his statement of 24th of last month, is to offset the deployment of American nuclear missiles in Britain, Federal Germany, and Italy.

OBSERVER CONDEMNS U.S. 'MILITARIST PROGRAM'

LD242201 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1800 GMT 24 Dec 83

[From the Vremya newscast]

[Text] The words and deeds of the North Atlantic leaders is the topic of a commentary by Georgiy Zubkov, political observer:

Hello, Comrades. "Top Secret" reads the stamp on a recorded cassette. It contains unencoded instructions, indicating the target which the missile is to strike. I learned of this from the latest issue of DER STERN. The magazine precisely identifies the deployment site of the missiles: First Battalion, 42nd Regiment, 56th Brigade Field Artillery, Mutlangen, near Stuttgart. The first U.S. nuclear missiles have now not only been delivered to West Europe and deployed there. They have also been brought to combat readiness. It is the system of these missiles which contains the recorded cassette.

Such are the facts, and they show that Washington is step by step implementing its militarist program, which was once again approved at the December meetings of the NATO leadership in Brussels. And at the same time the White House is uttering hypocritical regrets about the international situation, which has deteriorated. The American President Lincoln once remarked about a political figure: He has such profound respect for the truth that he utters it extremely sparingly. Is this not the way the present leader in the White House regards the truth? Otherwise how can one reconcile the assurances of the NATO leaders about their striving to find ways to limit nuclear weapons with their rejection of all the USSR's constructive proposals, with their military budget of almost $250 billion for next year, with the accelerated production of MX missiles, Trident submarines and B-1 bombers, and finally with their extensive plans to stockpile conventional arms too: Leopard tanks and Tornado aircraft?

In the West at Christmas time it is the fashion to try and guess the future. It is not only lovers, or those who are simply curious, who resort to this, but political figures too are prepared to guess whether the USSR will return to the Geneva negotiating table. It is not worth trying to guess at this. The deployment of missiles in West Europe and the act of bringing matters to the point of that recorded cassette with the Pershing flight-program have made it impossible to continue the Geneva talks, and the responsibility for this lies with the United States.

Not to play the hypocrite, not to try to predict the future, but to assess the situation in all seriousness and weigh all the consequences threatened by deployment of U.S. missiles in Europe -- this is what is required of the leaders in Washington, Bonn, London, and Rome.

ACADEMICIAN ON WEST'S NEW 'OPERATION DIALOGUE'

LD250813 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0600 GMT 25 Dec 83

[Text] There is at present in the West much talk about the need to continue a dialogue, and there are expressions of grief over the fact that the Soviet Union has left the Geneva negotiations on medium-range missiles. But, after all, only just recently the U.S. leaders were denying the very possibility of negotiating with the Soviet Union or were besetting such a possibility with all kinds of ridiculous conditions. Why then has there been a change in the tone and orientation of statements by Western leaders on this theme? This question is answered in KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA by Professor Yakovlev, director of the World Economics and International Relations Institute of the USSR Academy of Sciences.

Now Western politicians and propagandists have launched an importunate campaign, that I would call Operation Dialogue, Comrade Yakovlev says. Whether by command or by agreement Western leaders, especially those who are responsible for the deployment of American first-strike nuclear missiles in West Germany, Britain, and Italy, have begun their latest show of pretense, trying to give the impression that they had always been striving for agreement. The professor exposes this pretense and speaks in detail about the true aims of the U. S. Administration and the NATO allies of the United States.

INSTITUTE HEAD ON CEMA ECONOMIC GROWTH

LD271912 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1245 GMT 27 Dec 83

[From the "Countries of Socialism" program, presented by Vladimir Pasko]

[Summary] Hello comrades. The end of December is the time to sum up results of the outgoing year. The Central Committee plenum confirmed the correctness of the current economic line and stressed the importance of maintaining the positive trends. The year has been a successful one for the socialist countries' economies, despite difficulties in the international situation. Taking part in our program today is Yuriy Semenovich Shiryayev, director of the International Institute for Economic Problems and corresponding member of the USSR Academy of Sciences.

[Shiryayev] The preliminary results of the year should be seen in context of the task of intensifying development of the economy. The changes involved are big ones, and there was some slowing of the rate of growth in many CEMA countries in the first 2 years of the current 5-year period. "In my view, 1983 was a turning point. We managed to dynamize economic growth which I can illustrate with the example of basic indices. According to preliminary figures, national income in the CEMA countries will have grown by 3.5 or 3.8 percent in 1983, industrial output by 4.4 percent, and if we compare with 1980, then the growth will be 8.6 percent. Agriculture has advanced fairly well. As compared with 1980, growth here has been 7 to 8 percent. "What is typical and most characteristic is that the growths are more or less even in all the countries; even Poland, which has experienced the greatest difficulties, achieved considerable progress in 1983, that is, the fall in production was halted and a growth in production began for the first time in recent years. If we take industrial output, it will have increased by 8 percent according to preliminary figures. This is a very substantial achievement.

"Our Western critics have speculated a great deal on the slowdown in economic growth rates in the first years of the current 5-year period in a number of countries, and predicted almost a crisis in the socialist economy. All these prophesies have proved to be absolutely unfounded. In the complex situation connected with a change in the model of economic development, our countries have been able not only to maintain stable economic growth, but also to increase the rate of that growth. "The successful completion of the 3d year of the 5-year period in the CEMA countries as a whole is not only economically but also politically significant. The international situation in 1983 was extremely unfavorable. The United States and its allies strove by every means to step up international tension. They tried and are trying to impose a fresh spiral of the arms race on the world community. It is clear that a policy of that kind evokes measures in responses and this is connected with the diversion of fairly substantial resources. The capability of resolving creative tasks while at the same time strengthening the defense capability of the community shows the groundlessness of the adventuristic policy of Western leaders who are trying to slow down our economic growth by imposing an arms race." Coordination of economic development plans for the next 5-year period has begun. There is complete justification for optimism about the future of the socialist economy.

[Pasko] "What expresses the scope of our countries' cooperation most fully?"

[Shiryayev] "The volume of foreign trade. The volume of foreign trade of the CEMA countries in 1983 will amount to approximately 170 billion transferable rubles, according to preliminary estimates. About 60 percent of that volume is reciprocal trade." Vast volumes of goods are traded between socialist countries. There has been a fall in foreign trade of capitalist countries in recent years relative to national income or domestic product, but there has been no such trend in socialist countries.

U.S.-EUROPEAN POLICY 'DISAGREEMENTS' VIEWED

PM231616 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 23 Dec 83 First Edition p 1

[Gennadiy Shishkin "International Review": "In the Grip of Contradictions"]

[Excerpts] The old contradictions between the United States and West Europe have been sharply aggravated again. The latest round of talks between the U.S. delegation led by Secretary of State G. Shultz and the EC Commission -- the Common Market executive body -- has ended in Brussels without results.

Upon his return to Washington after taking part in the talks, Agriculture Secretary J. Block said that the United States is not going to sit idly by when competitors attack it and threatened a "trade war" if the Common Market does not review its agricultural policy.

The disagreements between West Europe and the United States are not just restricted to economic problems, but affect virtually the whole spectrum of European and world policy, including security, disarmament, and relations with the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries. They extend to relations with developing states, the Near East problem, and the national liberation struggle in Latin America and Africa. Opinions on how far West Europe should follow Washington in the pursuit of the Reagan administration's sharply anti-Soviet course are also different on the two sides of the Atlantic.

Recently West Europe has stepped up the elaboration of plans for strengthening regional political and military cooperation with a view to transforming the region into a "third force" capable of resisting Washington's pressure and providing it with a certain "autonomy" in military matters. In brief, THE NEW YORK TIMES MAGAZINE notes, "the buildup of armed forces and the Reagan administration's anti-Soviet crusades, which are being mounted at a time when most Europeans think that detente is still in operation on their continent and that their main problems are of an economic nature, are making them keep a respectful distance from us."

Now economically strengthened, West Europe would like to gain a voice and place in the world arena which corresponds to its present might. However, its economic potential is not bringing commensurate dividends. And this is primarily the fault of the United States, which is doing its utmost to consolidate its role as leader of the capitalist world. Relying on its position as the largest capitalist power, its military might, and its huge nuclear potential, the United States is overtly pursuing a course of weakening and suppressing the independence of the West European partners in all directions: military, political, economic, and cultural.

In a sharpening "trade war" the U.S. and West European monopolies are waging a bitter struggle over steel, textiles, and agricultural goods and in the sphere of civil aviation, merchant shipping, communications, banking, and insurance. A big role in the U.S. strategy of weakening the economic positions of its allies belongs to the increasingly exhausting arms race it is foisting on them. Even now, according to official data, the European NATO participants account for around 70 percent of ground forces, 75 percent of tanks, 65 percent of warplanes, and 60 percent of warships. At the December Brussels session of the NATO Council the United States managed to involve the allies in its course of further whipping up the arms race and elaborating new programs for modernizing the armed forces.

To the accompaniment of talk of "Atlantic solidarity" Washington got the Brussels NATO Council session to adopt a decision on the buildup of both nuclear and conventional arms on the basis of the latest scientific and technical achievements.

Thereby, on the one hand, it hopes to make even greater use of West Europe's growing economic and military potential in pursuing its militarist course. And on the other hand, Washington is cynically undermining the West European countries' competitiveness by foisting ruinous military spending on them. Apart from anything else, it is this that the Reagan administration's policy with its imperial ambitions and claims to a "leading role" in the world, is serving.

The United States is doing everything it can to place an increasing portion of its gigantic military program burden on the allies' shoulders. In pumping tens of billions of dollars from West Europe, the White House is trying to somehow bridge the gap in the U.S. budget. With this aim the United States is pursuing a policy of inflated bank rates. This, in turn, is leading to an increase in the dollar exchange rate, which has now reached new record levels vis-a-vis the French franc, the British pound, the West German mark, and the Italian lire. As a result, the capital so vital for the needs of West Europe's economic development is heading out of the Old World and into the United States. Last year alone the influx of capital into the United States amounted to $42 billion. And it is no accident that a wide range of West European figures, from British Conservative Prime Minister M. Thatcher to Greek Socialist Prime Minister A. Papandreou, accuse Washington of forcing the allies -- by means of high interest rates -- to make up U.S. budget deficits, which are over $200 billion annually, and thereby partially meet the excessive U.S. military spending.

Understanding is growing in West Europe of the extent to which Washington's course of more intensive exploitation of its partners' forces and resources contradicts West European peoples' national interests and of how dangerous it is to involve the Old World's increased economic and military potential in the Reagan administration's adventurist militarist course. It is not for nothing that the West German magazine STERN writes: "The obvious U.S. intention to use Pershing and cruise missiles to support its global policy of strength is the main reason why we do not like the deployment in West Germany of Pershing nuclear missiles and why we are stubbornly trying to show that we are more alarmed by these weapons which the Americans are sending here to 'protect us' than by the weapons which are targeted against us by the 'empire of evil.'"

The unprecedented growth of the antiwar movement in West Europe is cogent evidence of the fact that the vital political and socioeconomic interests of that continent's peoples most sharply and most seriously contradict Washington's course. The unprecedented scale of the peace movement is having considerable effect on shaping the political situation on the continent. The struggle to further uphold the ideals of all-European security and peaceful cooperation, to achieve disarmament, and to avert nuclear catastrophe is intensifying.

'STORMY, TROUBLED' 1983 RELATIONS REVIEWED

LD252356 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1500 GMT 25 Dec 83

[From 'International Panorama' program presented by Nikolay Shishlin, audio only]

[Text] Hello, comrades! The stormy and troubled 1983 is on its way out, and it will probably be correct to say that the year to which we are saying farewell has made it possible like no other to understand and feel that we live in a relatively small, fragile, and interdependent world. Meanwhile, this fragility is not a physical property, but is connected with the political events to which we have been witnesses.

But I do not want to see everything that has happened during 12 months in a miserable light: that would be simply wrong. In 1983, both the Soviet Union and our allies kept up broad and fruitful political contact with many countries with a different social system. Incidentally, the success of the Madrid meeting can be classed under this. Our economic cooperation with capitalist states and with developing countries undoubtedly developed. One example of this, let us say, is the recent fruitful session of the Soviet-French big commission.

Nor should one forget such an element, substantial element, of 1983 as the continued positive movement in Soviet-Chinese relations. Although, of course, Moscow and Beijing do not look at the world through the same eyes, I shall repeat, there is all the same motion, albeit slow and uneven.

Thus one can see various colors in the palette of international events. But one has, of course, to draw attention to the negative first and foremost. Here are a few cardinal facts. Fact number one: This is the United States' dash for a fresh twist in the arms race. Having deployed their intermediate-range missiles on the territory of Western Europe and undermined the talks on nuclear weapons limitation in Europe, the United States has in essence cut off the possibility of progress at other talks as well as those concerning disarmament problems. That is a reality with which we are entering 1984.

Fact number two: This is the multiplication of situations of conflict. In this year we are ending, the conflict in Chad flared up again, the war between Iran and Iraq continued, the Republic of South Africa racist regime's military action against Angola and Mozambique was stepped up, to say nothing of Namibia, and other hot spots on the planet were also in burning hot condition. It is clear that the nature of all these conflicts is not the same in every way, although, as it happens, they consider in Washington that the nature of any conflict is in fact to be found in exposing a simple secret, that, allegedly, the Soviet Union is present there, that this mythical Soviet threat is present there. Of course, such a simplistic, unconsidered view of the world leads to the fact that the Washington rulers resort more and more often to military force, and the frontiers of local conflicts are dangerously eroded, and can hardly be kept within any banks.

Fact number three: This is the harsh cooling in Soviet-U.S. relations, directly connected with the introduction of totally anticommunist convictions into the U.S. foreign policy by the Reagan administration. Although they, including the President and the secretary of state, speak in the United States, about maintaining certain contacts with the Soviet Union, and this really is so, the whole matter is that ordinary political thermometers are not suitable to measure the temperature, if you like, of the state of Soviet-U.S. relations, in order to determine it. These relations have fallen too low. As a result, of course, there is a prolonged international crisis.

But can one say that events in 1983 developed according to the U.S. scenario? Of course not. In deploying its missiles in Western Europe, the United States wanted to upset the military-strategic parity on our continent. But it did not succeed. The Soviet Union, together with its allies, is adopting fully sufficient defensive response measures. Military-strategic parity is a reliable and powerful brake. The United States wanted to strengthen the unity of the North Atlantic bloc, and in fact Bonn, London and Rome have already followed it. But probably more important from a futuristic point of view is the fact that an acute polarization of political forces is taking place in the West European countries, where those who follow Washington are on one side of the divide, and on the other are not only the communists, but also the Social-Democrats, liberal bourgeois circles, religious figures and trade unions. The United States is already beginning to pay for its predilection, for methods of force, and for its adventurism through a weakening of its political positions. Having sown many anxieties in today's world, the United States is reaping a rich harvest of anxieties and fears at home.

PAST YEAR SHOWED ANTIWAR MOVEMENT 'UPSWING'

LD240038 Moscow TASS in English 2133 GMT 23 Dec 83

[Text] Moscow December 23 TASS -- TASS political news analyst Robert Serebrennikov writes:

The outgoing year 1983 was marked by the unprecedented participation of the masses in world politics. In the difficult period through which mankind is living the anti-war, anti-missile movement has become a positive international factor capable of exerting an important influence on the solution of the cardinal questions of war and peace. This movement largely helped to reveal to millions of people what U.S. imperialism is really like, the militaristic course conducted by the Reagan administration, its extreme adventurism in international affairs.

The outgoing year shows that the anti-war movement is on the upswing: ever more people of different political views are joining the columns of marches of many thousands on both sides of the Atlantic.

As many as 5 million people took part in the anti-war manifestations in 1981. Over 40 million people of goodwill took part in such manifestations a year since then. Going by reports the number of peace marchers this year will be much greater. Millions of peace fighters took part this year in the spring marches for peace, in the week of action for European security and cooperation, in the week of action for disarmament, in various measures of the "hot autumn."

But defying the clearly stated will of the millions the United States and NATO embarked on the deployment of "U.S. Pershing" and cruise missiles, first strike weapons, on the European Continent. Contrary to what the NATO special services of psychological subversion claim, the appearance of the new U.S. nuclear missile weapons in Western Europe does not mean that the anti-war movement "has lost the battle over missiles," "is on the wane." Quite the contrary, the deployment of U.S. missiles in Western Europe has not dampened the struggle but has led to the increase of the realisation of the heightened danger by the public. New slogans, demands appeared in the anti-war movement: "End the deployment of deadly missiles," "Remove U.S. missiles," "Avert the nuclear threat from Europe," "Reagan means war."

Various proposals for the holding of nation-wide referendums, civil disobedience campaigns are discussed in West European countries. The anti-war activities of trade unions are being increased. "Peace vigils" at U.S. military bases where "Pershings" and cruise missiles are being deployed have become a new form of the struggle.

The forces which can avert the threat of war, preserve peace for the present and coming generations are steadily growing. But it should not be hoped that it will be easy to achieve success in the historic battle between the forces of peace and war. A stubborn struggle for peace should be waged. This is realised by ever more people of goodwill who declare resolutely against U.S. nuclear missiles, for peace and detente in Europe and all over the world.

III. 28 Dec 83 CC 5 USSR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS
WORLD & REGIONAL ISSUES

U.S. ALONE OPPOSED ON SPACE RESOLUTION

LD270258 Moscow in English to North America 2300 GMT 26 Dec 83

[Text] During a vote in the United Nations General Assembly last week on a resolution to ban militarization of outer space, the United States found itself in a minority of one against the other members of the world body. What doesn't suit the Reagan administration in that resolution? Our military observer, Colonel (Eduard Grigoryev), takes up the story.

The United Nations resolution was based on a Soviet-sponsored draft treaty to ban the use of force in space and from space against the earth. This Soviet proposal has met with broad support. A group of nonaligned countries tabled its own draft resolution taking as the basis the Soviet text of the treaty. The resolution was passed by 147 states at the United Nations, with the United States alone voting against. What were the United States' objections to it?

The main thing in the resolution of the United Nations General Assembly is the need to take effective measures at once to prevent an arms race in outer space. But President Reagan and his team don't like this apparently. It is during his term in office that action has begun, and quick action at that, on programs of militarization of space, programs that belonged to the world of science fiction until recently. The Pentagon is hastily developing systems of anti-missile and anti-satellite weapons. These systems are to start functioning in the United States within a few months. One project provides for the use of a two-stage rocket and of an F-15 fighter bomber to launch the rocket for hitting targets in space. A squadron of such planes is to be deployed in the States of Virginia and Washington.

To prepare for star wars, the United States has set up a space defense center. There is talk also it's necessary to have a joint command of the four armed services to conduct combat operations in space. Work has begun to build a joint space operations center near Colorado Springs. I may say many Americans have reasonable misgivings about Mr Reagan's plans, for example former United States Defense Secretary Harold Brown feels the President's space program may prove to be a nightmare which will be passed on to our children into the 21st century.

The experience of developing weapons systems shows that there can be no exclusive possession of any weapon. The Soviet Union won't be naturally sitting idly by as the United States is creating space weapons systems. In case the United States deploys the systems of weapons it's planning to have, the Soviet Union will be forced to take all the necessary steps to restore the balance of strength in the world. The pressing task today is avert another exceedingly dangerous round in the arms race. The Soviet Union seeks vigorously an agreement to eliminate the threat of war in space or from space. The 147 United Nations member-states that voted for the corresponding resolution want the same, only the United States delegation voted against.

REAGAN DEFENSE OF ARMS BUILDUP 'WISHFUL THINKING'

LD271149 Moscow World Service in English 0710 GMT 27 Dec 83

[Yuriy Reshetnikov commentary]

[Text] Last weekend, President Reagan gave an interview to Western reporters in which he defended the continued buildup of U.S. military strength. Our observer, Yuriy Reshetnikov, comments on Ronald Reagan's remarks:

In his wide-ranging interview, the President specifically mentioned the impact of American military preparations on the international scene. He said that the continued buildup of American strength has changed international relations a great deal. At this point, the President said, we are further from a confrontation possibility because of what he called deterrent capability of the United States and its allies.

We might agree with the assessment that the U.S. military buildup has indeed changed international relations a great deal, unfortunately not in the direction the rest of the world has been hoping for. In fact, the unrestrained buildup of military preparations in the United States has plunged the world into an atmosphere of uncertainty and gloom it has not known since the worst period of cold war in the early fifties and the deterrent capability, as Mr Reagan described it, did not distance the United States and its allies one bit from a confrontation possibility. If anything, the opposite is quite true.

For the first time in conditions of peace, the Reagan administration has increased the rates of military spending to 12-14 percent annually. In the past 3 years alone, the Pentagon has received around $640 billion and in the next 5 years total military spendings in the United States are expected to reach $2 trillion, which is approximately equivalent to the Pentagon budget over the past 35 years. According to military experts, such unbridled spendings exceed by far America's legitimate security interests. The irony of the situation, however, is that the massive military buildup by the United States will not make it feel secure. It will only increase the danger of war.

According to a prominent American defense expert, Gene LaRocque, it would not matter how much these plans and weapons cost if they made our nation more secure. Most of these hundreds of billions of dollars will only push us further along the road toward nuclear war, said the retired rear admiral, who currently heads the Center for Defense Information in Washington. Most military experts agree that the deployment of new American missiles begun this month in Western Europe has greatly increased the confrontation possibility that Mr Reagan referred to in his interview. While the United States and its NATO partners are trying to convince the public that nothing significant really happened and that the weapons in place will only stimulate the arms talks with the Soviet Union, such a rosy portrayal of the situation is merely wishful thinking.

The Soviet Union is forced to undertake appropriate measures to counter the military threat to its security. The notion of frightening this country into submissiveness by an arms race is farfetched. The Soviet Union has been able to match every previous American weapons buildup and there's no reason to think this new round will end differently. But the choice for a new spiral in the arms race rests with the policymakers in Washington.

U.S. 'STRIVING TO INTENSIFY CONFRONTATION' AT SEA

LD272226 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1325 GMT 27 Dec 83

[Text] Moscow, 27 Dec (TASS) -- TASS observer Vasiliy Kharkov writes:

The Reagan administration is striving to intensify confrontation on the open seas, to realize its plans for achieving U.S. military superiority there. Confirmation of this comes in an interview, published today in the paper WASHINGTON TIMES, with Admiral James Watkins, one of the highly placed officials of the U.S. naval forces. In it the admiral reports Washington's intention to carry out a new program of modernization and build up the U.S. submarine fleet. In particular, this envisages the construction of 38 new strike submarines, designated, as the admiral said, for "fighting the underwater missile-carriers of the enemy."

As early as the mid-fifties, the United States unleashed the marine nuclear arms race. And it is precisely they who have made every new step in it, having set as their goal the use of the open seas in their plans to establish world domination.

Under the Reagan administration, which seeks to bring the number of warships in the U.S. Navy to 600 units, this race has assumed a particularly large scale. The U.S. Navy is deployed over broad ocean expanses. Washington maintains major fleets in the Pacific, the Atlantic, and the Mediterranean, and carrier formations operate in the Indian Ocean. According to U.S. sources, the United States now has over 40 missile-carrying submarines, carrying almost half its strategic nuclear munitions.

With the aim of further building up the Navy, Washington is constructing new ships and weapons systems, and is also establishing new strongpoints and bases which serve to guarantee U.S. military presence wherever the Pentagon sees U.S. "vital interests".

At the same time, these bases are potential hotbeds of aggression and aggravation of conflicts.

The USSR and the other Warsaw Pact countries speak as resolute opponents of the militarization of the seas. They have proposed consideration within the UN framework of the question of limiting and reducing the level of military activity in the regions in question, whether these be the Atlantic, Indian or Pacific, the Mediterranean, or the Persian Gulf. They have also put forward an initiative to extend confidence-building measures on the worlds' seas and oceans. Their activity, which pursued the noble aim of curbing the sharpening of military confrontation at sea and seeking to make as much of the sea as possible a zone of peace, is in accord with the wishes of many littoral states of the world, in particular those of the Indian Ocean basin.

REAGAN TO KEEP NEAR EAST, C. AMERICA POLICIES

LD231602 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0429 GMT 23 Dec 83

[Text] Washington, 23 Dec (TASS) -- The Washington administration does not intend to desist from the aggressive course it is following in the Near East and Central America. The White House meeting of President Reagan with his special advisers in these "hot spots" of the world -- Rumsfeld and Stone -- was visible confirmation of this.

According to informed observers, Reagan "expressed satisfaction" with the activity of both emissaries, and directed them to continue "to act in the same spirit."

Meanwhile, it is clear that the administration's policy in the Near East and in Central America has nothing in common with finding a just solution to the problems of those regions. Stone's series of visits to Latin American countries, which has just concluded, is significant in this sense. While clamoring verbally for a political settlement, the White House emissary was in fact engaged in adjusting links between gangs of Somozists with the help of whom the United States would like to overthrow the Nicaraguan Government.

Rumsfeld's mission had the very same provocative nature of trying to push through Reagan's notorious Near East "initiative," which calls for the U.S. presence in the region to be consolidated and expanded.

SHULTZ SPEECH 'DISTORTS TRUTH' ON GRENADA

LD280256 Moscow in English to North America 2300 GMT 27 Dec 83

[Excerpts] In his recent speech at the Hilton Hotel in Washington, American State Secretary George Shultz lauded in every possible way the American invasion of Grenada. He even assured that the American aggression against that small independent country was virtually welcomed by Asian and African countries. More from our news analyst Vladislav Kozyakov.

[Kozyakov] When administration officials speak about success and of the victory over Grenada, this cannot but put the world public on the lookout. The praise of the armed aggression is a fresh reminder to the international community of the real danger that Reagan's policy and actions are fraught with. While Grenada has come under the attack of American Marines today, the same things may happen to any other independent state tomorrow. The speech of State Secretary Shultz in Washington confirms this apprehension. The head of the State Department tried to present what was condemned and rejected with indignation by the overwhelming majority of states, members of the United Nations Organization, as an event of major importance for the citizens of all continents and even as a move arousing a feeling of gratitude to Reagan.

Among the 108 countries who censured the American aggression were such countries as India, Indonesia, Mexico, Argentina, Brazil, Nigeria, as well as many of the American allies. As THE WASHINGTON POST pointed out, the United States has found itself completely isolated from all of its closest allies. But Secretary of State Shultz defies all facts by saying that Reagan's actions were welcomed on other continents. George Shultz not only distorts the truth when he describes the attitudes of other countries to the American invasion of Grenada in this way. What's more, he considers the invasion in the light of the administration's global strategy and even tries to put it on a sort of ideological basis. He claims that only immediately after World War II, people believed communism was a sign of the future. Today, he says, the entire world is oriented to the system of free enterprise, of which the United States is a major proponent.

Yet the example of the American invasion of Grenada has shown how the defenders of that system, the American leadership in particular, are acting. They are trying to impose their will on other countries and peoples by force. They are crudely violating all norms of international law. Incidentally, this is happening not only in Grenada but also in Lebanon, Nicaragua, and El Salvador. They are proclaiming at the same time a crusade on other countries and are preparing for nuclear war in the hope of winning it.

As for communism, or rather for the Soviet Union and the other socialist community countries, they are demanding, together with the international community, freedom for Grenada and are upholding such universally accepted values as independence of all countries, non-interference in the domestic affairs of other countries and peaceful coexistence.

Together with the international community the socialist countries denounce nuclear war and do all they can to save the world from a catastrophe. Today, as before, the policy of socialism remains to be a sign of the times.

BOOK ON CIA 'TERRORISM' IN GRENADA REVIEWED

LD231138 Moscow TASS in English 0905 GMT 23 Dec 83

["Cowardly, Treacherous, and Ruthless Aggression" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow December 23 TASS -- "U.S. aggression against Grenada is a crime planned well in advance. It is part of current U.S. foreign policy which is aimed at suppressing national liberation movements in different parts of the world." This is stressed in the book entitled "Grenada: U.S. Terrorism in Action" brought out by the Novosti Press Agency Publishing House. "At the same time, the criminal attack on a tiny, defenseless state in the Caribbean is also a typical manifestation of international terrorism on which Washington has put its official seal", the book which includes documents, facts and comments, underlines. "The U.S. policy combines covert CIA operations and undeclared wars with overt Pentagon military actions (or the threat of such actions). Moreover, the United States resorts to such actions not only to deal with its chosen victim, but also to frighten and terrorise other 'objectionable' governments. Thus, having invaded Grenada, Washington declares that this move should be a 'signal' to Nicaragua, to the patriots of El Salvador and even to Cuba," the book points out.

"The Reagan administration launched a propaganda campaign against Grenada as soon as it came to power. The CIA was continuously plotting against the government of Prime Minister Maurice Bishop. The United States declared Grenada an 'enemy' and a 'threat' to its security for the sole reason that after the revolution of 1979 Grenada was trying to find its own road of socio-economic development, without heeding Washington's importunate advice, and was firmly adhering to a policy of non-alignment on the international scene.

"All this was greatly resented by the hegemonistic circles of the United States, which had long regarded the Caribbean countries as their backyard. Since covert CIA operations alone did not help Washington to put an end to the Grenadian revolution, it embarked on preparations for direct military intervention", the book stresses.

PRC SUPPORT FOR 'DEMOCRATIC KAMPUCHEA' SCORED

LD271552 Moscow TASS in English 1530 GMT 27 Dec 83

["Farce in Beijing" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Beijing December 27 TASS -- The heads of the puppet "Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea" Sihanouk, Son Sann and Khieu Samphan, who were visiting Beijing at the invitation of the Chinese Government, gave a press-conference here. Addressing the press-conference, Sihanouk said that China had been requested to "increase aid in heavy weapons and munitions" and that "a positive answer had been received from the Chinese side". As is known, a motley company has been assembled under the reactionary flag of the "Coalition Government", the Pol Pot butcher relics playing the main role in it.

Before the press-conference the Khmer reaction chiefs, rejected by the Kampuchean people, met with Deng Xiaoping. In the course of the meeting the Chiese leader is reported to "promise to continue support for Democratic Kampuchea".

Phnom Penh December 27 TASS -- The Kampuchean SPK news agency has described the meeting of Sihanouk, Son Sann and Khieu Samphan in Beijing as a farce staged according to a Beijing scenario. Beijing, the agency says, is trying to embellish at least in a way the alliance of Khmer reaction, create a semblance of unity. Fearing that the alliance torn apart by incessant clashes and quarrels in their country of refuge -- Thailand, may very soon fall to pieces, the ruling circles of China arranged for the meeting of the "coalition" leaders in Beijing.

The assurances of aid and support, which China tirelessly makes to the grouping incorporated into the "coalition", the increasingly hostile attacks against Vietnam and Kampuchea are fresh proof of its striving to block the trend towards a dialogue between the countries of Indo-china in ASEAN, the SPK stresses.

Vientiane December 27 TASS -- Beijing, the newspaper PASASON, a publication of the Central Committee of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party says, is doing its utmost in an attempt to intensify the activities of its puppets in the "Coalition Government" of the so-called "Democratic Kampuchea", misleading international public and claiming that the "coalition" has succeeded in overcoming its internal strife. The Chinese leaders do not stint all sorts of promises to boost the morale of the groupings incorporated into that "coalition". They encourage traitors and criminals, trying in vain to prevent the revival of the Kampuchean people, who are restoring their homeland after Pol Pot genocide.

Noteworthy are reports from Tokyo, according to which Khieu Samphan told a press-conference in Beijing, that although Pol Pot is no member of the "Coalition Government", he is in charge of "military operations".

FISHERY, PORT CALL ACCORD REACHED WITH JAPAN

OW240219 Tokyo KYODO in English 0157 GMT 24 Dec 83

[Text] Moscow Dec 24 KYODO -- Japan and the Soviet Union reached an agreement on next year's fish catch quotas inside each other's 200-mile zone Saturday.

Under the agreement, Japan's catch quota was set at 700,000 metric tons, 50,000 tons less than the previous season, and the Soviet quota at 640,000 tons, a 10,000 ton decrease.

The agreement, reached after lengthy negotiations, also allows Japanese and Soviet fishing boats to call at Onahama port and Nakhodka by turn.

During the talks the Soviets has insisted on slashing the Japanese quota by 200,000 tons to 550,000 tons. Japanese delegation sources said the Soviets' tough stance (?reflected) their reaction to the anti-Soviet posture of the government of Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone.

Of the total Japanese fish catch quota, Alaska pollack -- the foremost item of concern to the Japanese side -- account for 270,000 tons, 20,000 tons less than in the previous year.

The Soviet catch quota for sardines and mackerel was set at 490,000 tons, a 10,000 ton cut.

Fishing conditions will be the same as the previous season for Japan but the Soviets will be allowed to extend the fishing period in two areas.

On port calls, the agreement sets the limit up to 70 vessels a year for each other. Harboring of a vessel will be limited up to 48 hours.

'NO CHANGES' FORESEEN FROM NEW NAKASONE CABINET

LD271513 Moscow TASS in English 1438 GMT 27 Dec 83

[Text] Moscow December 27 TASS -- TASS political news analyst Askold Biryukov writes:

What will change in Japan's political course in the country and in the international scene now that Yasuhiro Nakasone's second cabinet was formed? Nothing will change, in all probability. One draws involuntarily such a conclusion on analysing the reaction of different circles and mass media to the appearance in that country of yet another government of the Liberal Democratic Party.

In the statement which was the foundation for forming the new cabinet, Nakasone actually ignored all other reasons of the defeat of the Liberal Democratic Party at the recent parliamentary elections but one -- that he did not put an end in due time to the "Tanaka case" which stirred up the whole country. He promised in that connection "to liquidate any political influence" on the part of that politician -- bribe taker, "to enhance political ethics" in the Liberal Democratic Party.

The composition of the new cabinet, however, testifies to the contrary. Tanaka's political influence has not been liquidated in it. His faction holds, as before, a bigger part of portfolios -- 7 out of 21. The accession to the Liberal Democratic Party faction at the lower chamber of a group of conservative politicians from the "New Liberal Club", who earlier separated from the ruling party in connection with "Tanaka case", and who proclaimed "pure politics" as their credo, shows that an end has been put at the Liberal Democratic Party also to that "storm in a tea-cup." The very credo of the new liberals was buried into oblivion, since now they will sit in the government together with Tanaka's representatives.

Japanese press points out today that the composition of the new government is not up to Nakasone's political statement. Really, this cabinet is actually the symbiosis of the interests of opposing factions, which came into being as the result of their backstage political manoeuvering and which reflects the will of the ruling circles. Frightened by the defeat of the Liberal Democratic Party, they firmly declared for termination of inter-faction squabble and for formation of a government of "efficient working majority", though those whose political influence Nakasone promised to "liquidate" remain in the government.

Seemingly, nothing changes also in the sphere of foreign policy. Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe retains his post. And this fact is viewed in Tokyo as the confirmation that Japan will continue Nakasone's course based on close cooperation with the United States. "The circles, close to the Reagan administration," the newspaper TOKYO SHIMBUN writes in this connection, "positively appraise this fact the believe that there will be no changes in the Japanese-American relations." And, as was emphasised in his speech by Abe himself, the mainstays of the Japanese foreign policy will be, as before, the Japanese-American military alliance and consolidation of "Western solidarity". In other words, the previous linkage of the Japanese policy to the global strategy of the United States and NATO, to Washington's course of unrestrained arms race, confrontation with the forces of peace and social progress will stay on.

It is needless to say that Japanese electors at the latest elections voted exactly against such a course when they gave a vote of non-confidence in the ruling party. Seemingly, their will will be heeded least of all in the ruling camp.

BABRAK KARMAL'S 'GLORIOUS HISTORY' PRAISED

LD261532 Moscow TASS in English 1503 GMT 26 Dec 83

[Text] New Delhi December 26 TASS -- NATIONAL HERALD published a story by D.R. Goyal under the title: "The Non-Aligned World Afghanistan From Darkness to Light".

Turn of the year brings to mind important recent events which totally changed the course of history in Afghanistan. Whatever be your ideological orientation you cannot deny that with the Sawr [April] revolution of 1978 the country broke out of the dungeon of medieval darkness and the advent of second phase in the last days of December 1979 has made the process of transformation irreversible.

The discussion in the world on Afghanistan remains generally centred on the arrival of Soviet forces.

Kabul's reply is that the Soviet forces were invited to meet the threat to the revolutionary change posed by outside forces, that they are not occupation forces but auxiliary forces and that they have come in accordance with the legally valid bilateral treaty between Afghanistan and the USSR. When occupation forces come, they point out, the indigenous forces are disarmed whereas in this case they have been reinforced and expanded.

The presence of foreign forces on any country's soil, even Kabul agrees, is not a desirable thing. But then the circumstances in which they were invited should not be ignored. Sober opinion in the world also feels that conditions have to be created in which the threat which brought Soviet forces into Afghanistan should be eliminated so that the undesirable situation is brought to an end. The secretary-general of the U.N. has been making efforts to persuade the governments concerned to come to such an understanding that all outside interference is eliminated.

The Afghans also point out the irony that the Soviet Union is criticized by those who are maintaining a two-lakh [200,000] strong army in West Europe and now are installing the latest nuclear missiles -- Pershing-2 and cruise -- in the teeth of widespread opposition from the people in U.K. and West Germany. On whose invitation and according to which tenets of international law did the "invasion" of Grenada take place? (The word "invasion" was first used for that action by none else but President Ronald Reagan himself). The same people criticise the presence of Soviet troops in Afghanistan who maintained a whole army in South Korea for 30 years and who fought a bloody war against the people of Vietnam for two decades. The criticism, the Afghans assert, is not motivated by concern for Islam or democracy either. Love of Islam and Muslims should have led them to help Palestinians to secure their homeland and defend Lebanon, Syria and Jordan against the depredations of the Zionist regime in Tel Aviv. If they have concern for democracy why do they support the usurper military regimes of Ziaul Haq in Pakistan and of Pinochet in Chile?

A major factor that is ignored by commentators on Afghanistan is the personality of President Babrak Karmal. Unlike his predecessor Amin and unlike the so-called mujahidin leaders he has behind him a glorious history of three decades of political struggles; he has been the leader of enlightened thought in the University of Kabul which has been the main centre of political consciousness.

Karmal is also one of the pioneers of organised popular struggle against monarchy and for deomocratic rights. People in Kabul remember him as a defender of the rights of minorities, harbinger of women's emancipation, organiser of trade unions and stimulator of thirst for education and knowledge. While most of his critics and rivals enjoyed life by the courtesy of the monarchy or foreign forces he gave up the prospects of personal comfort and advancement which he could have inherited from his father who was a general in the king's army.

The last days of December, the Kabulis would tell you, should bring to mind Karmal whose birthday falls on January 1. Coincidentally the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan (PDPA) was also set upo on the same date in 1965. It is time to recall these. The impact of Karmal and PDPA is going to be enduring. What is significant about Karmal is that he got elected twice from a constituency in Kabul to the National Assembly of Afghanistan. A fact which many people outside tend to ignore and which makes him more representative of people, in every sense of the term, than any of his adversaries.

Afghanistan is a backward country with 95 percent illiteracy, 98 percent among women. The two ruling passions of Karmal, therefore, have been removal of illiteracy, and emancipation of women. Despite all difficulties the literacy programme is progressing rapidly. According to reports the number of students in 1982 rose to 515,000 as compared to just 5,265 in April 1978. And thus progrsss has been registered overcoming the shortage of funds and trained teachers.

The main hurdle is posed by the activities of the rebels whose main targets have been schools and teachers. Many of the schools were destroyed by the insurgents. The Afghan leaders are paying special attention to spreading literacy because they feel it would help people to understand the need and significance of reforms that are being introduced. Citizens with understanding, they feel, can cooperate and participate in development more effectively. But transformation of the whole society needs time and peace.

TRADE PROTOCOL WITH AFGHANISTAN SIGNED IN MOSCOW

LD272234 Moscow World Service in English 2200 GMT 27 Dec 83

[Text] Trade between the Soviet Union and Afghanistan next year will increase by about 15 percent and amount to around $800 million. A protocol on bilateral trade was signed on Tuesday in Moscow. The Soviet Union will export to Afghanistan equipment, oil products, metals, fertilizer, lumber, paper and fabrics; and it will import natural gas, cotton, wool, raw hides, and other commodities.

KABUL NEW TIMES SCORES U.S. AID TO REBELS

LD240406 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1708 GMT 23 Dec 83

[Text] Kabul, 23 Dec (TASS) -- In 1983 the United States granted Afghan counterrevolutionaries $100 million. In 1984 this figure will increase to $125 million, writes KABUL NEW TIMES in its editorial. But even this sum does not reflect the real aid to the Basmache gangs. The United States' present coure shows that the American administration does not seek a political solution to the question, in spite of the good will and constructive initiatives by the DRA Government. The people of Afghanistan, stresses KABUL NEW TIMES, fully support the April revolution, and there is no power in the world that could shake this support.

DRA PRESS CONFERENCE HITS FOREIGN 'INTERFERENCE'

'Ominous' U.S. 'Threat' Cited

LD261000 Moscow TASS in English 0909 GMT 26 Dec 83

[Text] Kabul December 26 TASS -- TASS correspondent German Baykov reports:

A press conference for local and foreign journalists was held here on Sunday. Imperialism's and reactionary forces' interference in the internal affairs of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan (DRA) was exposed at the press conference.

The April Revolution put an end to the exploiters' rule once and for all, Bareq Shaf'i, first deputy chairman of the National Fatherland Front, said when declaring the press conference open. Immediately after the revolution was accomplished, the imperialist circles headed by the USA began practising military, economic and political interference in the internal affairs of the DRA. The interference assumed the form of an undeclared war.

U.S. imperialism has converted Pakistani territory into the centre of the direct threat to peace and to the security of the region. The militarist regime of Islamabad, Shaf'i pointed out, plays an ominous role in Washington's political and militarist strategy. But the criminal politicians from Washington and their allies cannot turn backwards the wheel of history and hinder the final triumph of the revolution in Afghanistan.

The Afghan people's struggle, Shaf'i emphasised, is an integral part of the struggle by the forces of peace and social progress against imperialism and war, against deployment of U.S. "Pershing-2" nuclear missiles in Western Europe and in Pakistani territory, against the military occupation of independent Grenada, against the CIA's subversive activity.

The Afghan people, Bareq Shaf'i said, is not alone in its struggle which enjoys international support, first of all on the part of the socialist community.

Representatives of state and public organisations of the DRA, refugees and former members of counter-revolutionary bands, who were present at the press conference, answered numerous questions posed by journalists. On the strergth of convincing examples they showed how imperialist interference in the internal affairs of the DRA is practised. It was pointed out, in particular, that the USA has increased aid to the counter-revolutionaries many-fold. U.S. allies keep pace with it, too. Thus, for example, Japan assigns millions of yen to the counter-revolutionary rabbie, Britain has allocated 18 million pounds sterling, and the FRG -- 60 million marks.

The volume of propaganda against the DRA has grown 30-fold in the past five years, according to Dawud Kawian, vice president of the BAKHTAQ NEWS AGENCY for home news. than 50 radio stations conduct subversive broadcasts in various language of the peoples of Afghanistan for 110 hours daily. Western mass media spread yarns about the DRA.

Abdul Wali Hojjat, chairman of the main board of Islamic affairs, rejected the Western propaganda assertions as to persecutions of Moslems in the DRA. The citizens in Afghanistan have all rights to perform religious rites guaranteed for them.

This can be illustrated if only by the simple example that 34 new mosques have been built in Kabul alone in the past three years, and those who wished to make pilgrimage to Mecca were granted 172 million afghanis.

Said Naqi Shah and Rahmatullah, former members of counter-revolutionary bands, related how counter-revolutionary leaders delude the ordinary people and how Americans are directly in charge of the activities of the counter-revolutionaries. Rahmatullah said, in particular, that two Americans, who had the Afghan names of Abdullah and Yasin but spoke English, were in charge of military training at the camp where he stayed.

An exhibition of arms captured from counter-revolutionaries was arranged in the hall where the press conference was held.

'Strike Force' Scored

LD261928 Moscow TASS in English 1904 GMT 26 Dec 83

["Washington's Illusions Concerning Afghanistan" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow December 26 TASS -- TASS political analyst Leonid Ponomarev reports:

A press conference of representatives of the National Fatherland Front of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, which was held Sunday in Kabul, convincingly showed that the U.S. and its allies were going on with their policy of gross interference in the internal affairs of that country. For this purpose they widely use gangs of mercenaries and counterrevolutionaries who make armed raids to the Afghan territory from the bases situated in Pakistan.

Judging by all appearances, Washington and other centres from where the activities of the Afghan counterrevolutionary forces are organized cannot reconcile themselves to the fact that the Afghan people have done away with the omnipotence of the oppressors and are building a new life in line with their own interests.

In the sphere of foreign policy, the Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan is staunchly upholding the principles of sovereignty and independence of the republic. It has more than once demonstrated its allegiance to the cause of peace, guided by the striving to settle the situation around Afghanistan exclusively by peaceful means. Even in planning and carrying out military operations against the gangs of invaders the DRA leaders show restraint and see to it that the crisis kindled by the U.S. should not develop further. For instance, the DRA Government does not take advantage of its lawful right to pursue the gangs when they retreat to foreign bases following the attacks of the DRA troops.

Thus, facts show that the leaders of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan do not give way to provocations and keep open all roads to a political settlement of problems with Afghanistan's neighbors.

The Reagan administration's stand on this problem is actually the opposite. It puts a stake on force and on gross interference in the affairs of the sovereign state. This is why Washington officials are so generous when it comes to direct financial and military aid for the gangs of cutthroats who undergo training at over 100 special bases. The Pentagon, which is building up Pakistan's military might, is going to use it as a "strike force" against other countries of the region.

According to the latest reports of the Indian press, the White House seems positioned to deploy on the Pakistani territory U.S. "Pershing-2" and cruise missiles, which, as is known, are first-strike weapons, i.e. the weapons of aggression.

All these facts show that Washington is obviously not interested in a political settlement of the situation around Afghanistan which has emerged through the fault of the U.S. The Reagan administration is going out of its way to prevent the lessening of tension in that region, since if the armed intervention against Afghanistan from the outside is terminated, real conditions will be created for this kind of a settlement. U.S. strategists cherish illusory hopes that mercenary gangs, missiles and marines can solve all the problems by themselves. However, life destroys these illusions and the existence of a new Democratic Afghanistan which is gaining in strength with every day is another proof of it.

AFGHANISTAN'S 1983 'ACCOMPLISHMENTS' PRAISED

LD271255 Moscow TASS in English 1135 GMT 27 Dec 83

[Text] Kabul December 27 TASS -- TASS correspondent Vladimir Volkodav reports:

The outgoing year of 1983 has been marked with new accomplishments in different spheres of the socio-political and socio-economic life of Democratic Afghanistan.

The land and water reform is being consistently put into life. The recently endorsed draft of amendments and supplements to the land decree of the Revolutionary Council of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan creates more favourable possibilities for direct participation of broad peasant masses in solution of questions of land tenure and development of agriculture production. About 300,000 families of landless and land-starved peasants have been provided with land by now.

The proclaimed equality of all peoples and tribes, inhabiting the country, is substantiated by the concrete measures of the Afghan leadership. Children of different nationalities got possibility to study in the native language, close attention is being paid to the development of national culture. Jirgas (assemblies) of tribes became a widely spread form of solution of pressing issues of everyday life.

Political and social activity of the Afghan people is on the rise. The membership of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan reached 100,000. 136,000 boys and girls are affiliated with the Democratic Organisation of the Youth of Afghanistan. Tens of thousands of women -- members of the Democratic Organisation of Women of Afghanistan -- actively participate in social life of the country.

But the successes of the Afghan people would have been more significant were it not for the undeclared war which is waged against the sovereign state by international imperialism and reaction. About 900 bandits were arrested by the security forces of the republic in August and September of this year alone. More than 2,500 units of firearms, a considerable number of ammunition, other combat equipment were confiscated from the bandits.

A major role in defending the gains of the national-democratic revolution is played by armed formations from among members of public organisations and the local population, civil defence groups at enterprises and institutions of the country, which give a firm rebuff to gangs which penetrate from the territory of frontier states.

The criminal activity of the counter-revolutionaries and their supporters will not push the people of Afghanistan off from the path chosen.

INDIAN PARTIES PLAN ANTI-NUCLEAR WAR CAMPAIGN

LD262300 Moscow TASS in English 1826 GMT 26 Dec 83

[Text] New Delhi December 26 TASS -- The decision to deploy jointly in India a mass campaign against the danger of nuclear war, for the consolidation of peace and national security has been adopted by eight leading opposition parties of the country, including the Communist Party of India and the Communist Party of India (Marxist). A statement published after a conference of representatives of the leadership of those parties held here today stresses that President of the United States Reagan and his allies in NATO harbour the insane designs of dealing a nuclear strike on the Soviet Union which consistently exerts efforts for the preservation of universal peace jointly with other socialist countries and peaceful states, including India.

The document says that as a result of the aggressive course of the Washington administration the threat to peace, security and stability in the area of the South Asian subcontinent increased considerably. An evidence of this is a heavy arming of Pakistan by the United States, the build-up of the U.S. military might in the Indian Ocean Basin, the strengthening of the Pentagon base on the Diego Garcia Island and the deployment of nuclear weapons at that base.

It has been decided to hold in the framework of joint campaign a nationwide conference in New Delhi under the slogans of intensifying a broad movement in India against war, for the ending of the arms race and consolidation of peace.

CIA'S 'SCANDALOUS FAILURES' IN INDIA 'UNMASKED'

LD251955 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 25 Dec 83

[Text] As the Indian press reports, employees at the U.S. Consulate General in Calcutta have been unmasked in espionage activity. One of the Americans, at the demand of the Indian Government, has already left the country and the other has been ordered to leave India in the next few days. Here is a commentary from our political observer, Aleksandr Zholkver:

I confess that reports from India were not particularly surprising to me. It has been known for quite a long time that the CIA is actively operating in this country. The U.S. agents are interested in India's defense secrets, extending comprehenisve support to separatist groups, and attempting to destabilize the situation in the country. I have not even mentioned that through both the CIA and directly through the war department the United States is making large arms deliveries to neighboring Pakistan, stirring up dangerous tension on the Indian borders. It can truly be said that recently the U.S. secret service has suffered several scandalous failures, one after the other, in India.

A group of CIA workers acting under the guise of diplomats in the U.S. Embassy was forced to clear out of the country. For several hours, Indian students occupied the premises of the U.S. Information Service in Delhi, demanding the expulsion of the U.S. ambassador himself. In the region of Calcutta Port two U.S. tourists, underwater swimmers, who were engaged not in tourism at all but in military espionage, were caught red-handed. And now, in Calcutta again, U.S. Consulate workers have been found spying; one of them is the head of the consulate's political department. To all of this I should add that India is not the only country to be the object of, to put it that way, the heightened attention of the "U.S. company," as the CIA is usually called.

Just the other day in Canada, a group of CIA agents who were preparing the murder of the Guyanan president were detained. In this connection, who cannot recall that the CIA also actively prepared the U.S. aggression against Grenada and, as has now become clear, was directly involved in the murder of the Grenadian prime minister, Bishop?

In general, as the U.S. magazine, NEWSWEEK noted recently, under Ronald Reagan the "company" has again started engaging in its old business on a global scale. It is using enormous resources, the likes of which it has never had at its disposal since the days of its activities' dawning 20 years ago. The cloaks and daggers, NEWSWEEK observes, have again been dragged out of the CIA's storeroom.

It notes, however, that as the recent events in India and Canada demonstrate, the governments of independent states frequently tear away the cloaks from the spies and murderers of the CIA and knock the daggers out of their hands in time.

SOVIET ENVOY INTERVIEWED BY PAKISTANI PAPER

NAWA-E WAQT in Urdu 7 Dec 83 p 1

[By special correspondent]

[Excerpts] Lahore, 6 Dec: The Soviet charge d'affaires in Pakistan, Mr (Vladimir G. Belov) said that the most effective solution to the Afghanistan issue is that Kabul and Islamabad should talk directly, because the present government in Afghanistan is its legal government. Besides, the formulation of a schedule for the departure of Soviet troops from Afghanistan is the concern of the two governments, which has no connection with the indirect Geneva talks.

The Soviet charge d'affaires who was being interviewd by the NAWA-E WAQT correspondent during a brief visit to Lahore said: Talk about the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan without international guarantees of nonintervention in Afghanistan's internal affairs is like putting the cart before the horse. During the course of the interview, the Soviet charge d'affaires deemed the economic, cultural, and political cooperation between Pakistan and the Soviet Union extremely welcome and said: President Ziaul Haq's visit to Moscow last year and his meeting with Soviet President Andropov was the reason for improved relations. In answer to a question on whether the Soviet Union is exerting pressure on Pakistan instead of presenting a schedule for the evacuation of Soviet troops from Afghanistan, Mr (Belov) said: The Soviet Union has never exerted any kind of pressure on Pakistan on the issue of Afghanistan or any other issue. He expressed his regret that there had been no progress on the Afghanistan issue at the Geneva parleys and although the Soviet Union had been optimistic about the Geneva talks being productive, it appears things have become more complicated, especially in the latter part of the talks. He said: Intervention in the internal affairs of Afghanistan must stop so that conditions in the region may improve. Certain international guarantees are also necessary so that the possibility of foreign interference in Afghanistan's internal affairs is eliminated.

When his attention was drawn to the fact that the Pakistani foreign minister had visited Washington and Moscow and had conferred with Security Council members and there was unanimity on the laying down of such guarantees, the Soviet diplomat said: But facts are to the contrary.

The United States and some of its allies have attempted to gnarl the situation in Afghanistan and it is no secret that the United States is pressuring Pakistan to abandon any attempts at a political settlement of the Afghan issue. During their recent visits, U.S. Secretary of Defense Weinberger and U.S. Secretary of State Shultz issued statements which were not conducive to or effective vis-a-vis the Afghan issue. The Soviet leaders have never followed this policy of visiting other countries and maligning a third country. In answer to another question, Mr (Belov) said: In the capacity of a diplomat, I should not be commenting on Geneva talks or the Afghan issue, but I must stress that Pakistan must adopt a realistic attitude. When asked to elucidate on what he meant by a "realistic attitude", Mr (Belov) said: The only effective way is direct talks between Kabul and Islamabad because, whether anyone likes it not, the present government in Kabul is the lawful government and how can any thing be solved without talks with the government itself?

He expressed satisfaction with the amelioration of Pakistani-Soviet economic relations and revealed that next week, a high-level delegation is leaving for Moscow and will discuss ways and means for increasing mutual economic cooperation. He added: By next year, the steel mill set up in Pakistan with Soviet assistance will be operating at its maximum capacity. The Belarus tractor factory in Lahore is also operating satisfactorily and tractors will be supplied to consumers directly from here and this is a sign of the popularity of Russian tractors in Pakistan. The Soviet charge d'affaires dubbed the exchange of cultural and political delegations commendable and announced that an exhibition of Soviet art from Kazakhstan would be held in Pakistan next month.

He said: Mr Smirnov [Soviet ambassador to Pakistan] will preside over a function in Lahore to present a book on Dr Iqbal on which research has been done in the Soviet Union. Commenting on a remark by visiting U.S. research scholar Dr Ziring during a lecture at Lahore where he said that Pakistan must first put its house in order, the Soviet diplomat said: As was felt by some circles in Pakistan, this is tantamount to overt intervention in Pakistan's internal affairs. The Pakistani people are fully capable of handling their own affairs and this applies to the situation in Afghanistan as well. He was extremely perturbed regarding the situation in the Middle East and in response to a question said: The objective of U.S.-Israeli military collusion is to destroy the Palestinian organization's defense and to make Syria its target because Syria is an obstacle in the path of obtaining the objectives of the United States and Israel and therefore, as the newspapers have reported, preparations are being made to launch an attack on it.

PAKISTANI OPPOSITION SEEKS END TO MARTIAL LAW

LD272056 Moscow TASS in English 2038 GMT 27 Dec 83

[Text] New Delhi December 27 TASS --- Pakistan's opposition parties favour an end to martial law, release of all political prisoners and immediate holding of general parliamentary elections in the country. This has been declared by participants in a conference in Lahore, sponsored by the Movement for the Restoration of Democracy (MRD).

According to press reports, M. Rasim, MRD acting general secretary, stressed at the conference that the Pakistani people are practically denied their democratic rights and political liberties by the military regime. He opposed Ziaul Haq's plans to hold elections in 1985 without participation of the political parties, which would guarantee the incumbent head of the military administration "victory" and post of president in the next government.

M. Qasim strongly criticised the activity of the rubberstamp Consultative Council set up by the military regime in place of the disbanded parliament.

Anti-government demonstrations are continuing in various parts of Pakistan despite the regime's repressions. MRD supporters in he Pakistani-occupied part of the Indian state of Jammu and Kashmir expressed their determination to fight for democratic rights. Prominent political figure Mohammad Ibrahim Khan, addressing a meeting in Palandri, said that the local administration, denied support of the masses, proved unable to cope with the unrestricted price rise and other economic and social problems. He said that the extension of prison terms for the MRD leaders arrested during the civil disobedience campaign will result in another outbreak of popular discontent with the military administration's policy.

CPSU GROUP IN LAOS FOR PARTY ORGANIZATION TALKS

PM231137 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 23 Dec 83 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Exchange of Experience"]

[Text] In accordance with the plan for interparty relations between the CPSU and the Lao People's Revolutionary Party [LPRP], a delegation of CPSU party workers headed by Yu.N. Khristoradnov, member of the CPSU Central Committee and first secretary of Gorkiy party obkom, was visiting the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR] 13-21 December to exchange experience in the sphere of party organization. The delegation was received by K. Phomvihan, general secretary of the LPRP Central Committee and chairman of the LPDR Council of Ministers.

OGARKOV, KULIKOV, OTHERS AWARDED SRV ORDER

BK231708 Hanoi VNA in English 1557 GMT 23 Dec 83

[Text] Hanoi VNA December 23 -- Eight senior officers of the Ministry of Defence of the U.S.S.R. have been conferred the Military Order, First Class of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam at a ceremony in Moscow on Dec. 22. The presentation was made by Dinh Nho Liem, member of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee, and Vietnamese ambassador to the Soviet Union, on behalf of the Council of State of Vietnam. The citation said the award was made in acknowledgement of their outstanding contributions to the Army [word indistinct] and national defence of Vietnam. The recipients were Marshal N.V. Ogarkov, member of the C.P.S.U. Central Committee, chief of the General Staff of the Soviet Armed Forces, first vice minister of defence; Marshal V.G. Kulikov, member of the CPSU Central Committee, commander-in-chief of the United Armed Forces of the Warsaw Treaty, first vice minister of defence; Marshal S. L. Sokolov, member of the CPSU Central Committee, first vice minister of defence; General A.A. Yepishev, member of the CPSU Central Committee, chairman of the Political Department of the Soviet Army and Navy; Air Force Marshal A.I. Koldunov, member of the CPSU Central Committee, commander-in-chief of the Air Defence Forces, vice minister of defence; Air Force Chief Marshal P.S. Kutakhov, member of the CPSU Central Committee, vice minister of defence, commander in chief of the Air Force; Admiral of the Fleet S.G. Gorshkov, member of the CPSU Central Committee, commander-in-chief of the Navy, vice minister of defence; Senior Lieutenant General V.N. Dutov, head of the General Department No. 10 of the General Staff of the Soviet Armed Forces. On behalf of the recipients, Marshal Ogarkov expressed warm thanks to the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam, the Council of State [passage indistinct].

INCREASED U.S. MILITARY AID TO THAILAND NOTED

LD241132 Moscow TASS in English 1107 GMT 24 Dec 83

[Text] Bangkok December 24 TASS -- The U.S. Administration intends to increase by almost 10 percent military aid to Thailand and to bring it in the next year up to 106,200,000 dollars, said a representative of Thailand's Foreign Ministry, General Director of the Information Department of the Foreign Ministry Sawanit Kongsiri. The money is granted to purchase in the United States weapons and military equipment. The United States is also to finance programmes of combat training of officers and provide a subsidy for the maintenance of paramilitary formations and establishment of a network of the so-called "self-defence villages" in Thailand's frontier areas. As is noted by news analysts, U.S. enhanced activity in the ASEAN countries has the aim to build up U.S. military aid in the region and also pursues the aim of heightening the situation on the Thai-Kampuchean frontier and provoking confrontation between ASEAN countries and states of Indochina.

HONECKER ON U.S., SOVIET MISSILE DEPLOYMENT

LD231402 Moscow TASS in English 1132 GMT 23 Dec 83

[Text] Berlin December 22 TASS -- The German Democratic Republic strongly condemns the deployment of American medium-range nuclear missiles in Western Europe, said Erich Honecker, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany and chairman of the GDR Council of State.

Speaking in an interview with the French weekly REVOLUTION, he said that the implementation of these dangerous NATO plans has exacerbated the international situation, ushered in another round of the arms race and increased the risk of a nuclear war. The world has entered what is possibly the most dangerous period in post-war years. Millions of people throughout the world are expessing their opposition to these developments by taking part in the peace movement.

But defying the will of the people, the United States has begun deploying its missiles in a number of West European countries and thus assumed gravest responsibility. The United States is seeking to gain strategic military superiority over the Soviet Union and the other members of the Warsaw Treaty Organization. This must not be allowed, the GDR leader emphasized.

In these conditions, he said, "We are compelled to take effective counter-measures". Preparatory work, which got under way in the GDR and Czechoslovakia some time ago to deploy operational-tactical missiles of increased ranges in their territories, will be expedited.

At the same time Honecker said that his country will continue firmly and resolutely following a policy of consolidating peace and putting an end to the arms race. The GDR is in favour of constructive steps to limit and reduce armaments on the principles of equality and equal security.

HUNGARIAN ASSEMBLY ADOPTS MISSILE PROTEST

LD232337 Moscow TASS in English 2218 GMT 23 Dec 83

[Text] Budapest December 23 TASS -- The National Assembly of the Hungarian People's Republic has adopted at its session a statement expressing a protest against the deployment of new U.S. medium-range nuclear missiles in Western Europe.

The statement says that despite the calls of peoples for peace and disarmament, the United States and some of its allies in NATO have commenced the deployment of U.S. nuclear missile weapons which has aggravated the international situation still more. The responsibility for the situation that has been created is borne by those who made this step with the aim of disrupting the military-strategic balance between NATO and the Warsaw Treaty Organisation.

The National Assembly of the Hungarian People's Republic has confirmed Hungary's stand set out in a statement of the country's government. It expressed the support for the statement of the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Yuriy Andropov and approved of the Soviet Union's measures aimed at the ensurance of the security of the USSR and the other countries of the socialist community.

The National Assembly of the Hungarian People's Republic stressed that Hungary together with its allies in the Warsaw Treaty will continue exerting efforts to strengthen peace and security in Europe and all over the world.

JARUZELSKI RECEIVES SUPREME SOVIET'S RUBEN 21 DEC

FM231038 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 23 Dec 83 Morning Edition p 3

[TASS report: "Fraternal Contacts"]

[Text] Warsaw, 21 Dec -- W. Jaruzelski, first secretary of the PZPR Central Committee and chairman of the Polish Council of Ministers, today received a USSR Supreme Soviet delegation headed by V.P. Ruben, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Soviet of Nationalities, which is here on an official friendly visit.

During the talk, the significance of strengthening the friendship between the Soviet Union and Poland and of further extending fraternal contacts and cooperation in various spheres was stressed. Questions of the current international situation, which has been exacerbated as a consequence of the U.S. Administration's adventurist course, were also touched on. A.N. Aksenov, USSR Ambassador to Poland, took part in the talk.

SUPREME SOVIET DELEGATION ATTENDS POLISH SEJM

FM231132 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 23 Dec 83 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Sejm Session"]

[Text] Warsaw, 22 Dec -- A routine session of the Polish Sejm was held here yesterday. Taking part in its work were W. Jaruzelski, first secretary of the PZPR Central Committee and chairman of the Polish Council of Ministers, and other party and state leaders.

The USSR Supreme Soviet delegation which is on an official friendly visit to Poland attended the session.

The deputies adopted a law in connection with some legal aspects of the introduction of the economic reform. A government draft law on the development of physical culture was also examined.

NURIYEV-LED DELEGATION ENDS POLAND VISIT

LD250017 Moscow World Service in English 2200 GMT 24 Dec 83

[Text] A Soviet delegation led by a deputy prime minister Ziya Nuriyev, has ended his visit to Poland. The delegation was received by the Polish leader Wojciech Jaruzelski. During the meetings and talks in the Central Committee of the Polish United Workers' Party, further cooperation in agriculture and other fields of the agro-industrial complex were discussed.

POLISH-SOVIET FRIENDSHIP SOCIETY CONGRESS ENDS

FM221443 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 21 Dec 83 Morning Edition pp 1,3

[TASS/IZVESTIYA report: "Tested by Time"]

[Text] Warsaw -- The 11th Polish-Soviet Friendship Society [TPPR] Congress has ended in Warsaw after 2 days' work. The delegates -- workers, peasants, and representatives of the intelligentsia -- met in the festively bedecked Congress Hall.

The TPPR, which now unites 2.6 million people, is one of the republic's largest and most influential social organizations. After withstanding the difficult tests of recent years, the society serves the noble aims of further strengthening the friendship and cooperation between our peoples.

A report was delivered by S. Wronski, chairman of the society's main board. He stated that friendship with the Soviet Union meets the vital interests of the Polish people and the state. After noting the great signficance of the multifaceted cooperation between Poland and the USSR, the speaker particularly emphasized the Soviet Union's prestige and role in safeguarding peace and the peoples' security. The alliance with Lenin's motherland has served and continues to serve the strengthening of Poland's independence and is a guarantee of the inviolability of its borders.

The traditions of joint revolutionary struggle of the two countries' best sons, V.I. Lenin's great legacy, the sacrifices and blood of Soviet and Polish soldiers and of partisans in the common struggle against the Hitlerites, and the Soviet people's fraternal support in restoring ravaged Poland -- all this has always been and remains present in our society's work programs.

On the TPPR's activity in the period under review, the speaker pointed out that each society member and the TPPR as a whole passed a stern test of political maturity when the forces of internal and external counterrevolution launched anti-Soviet hysteria in 1980-1981 and when the TPPR aktiv was subjected to pressure and intimidation. Under these complex conditions, the TPPR held to the firm ideological-political positions adopted by the 10th TPPR Congress and consistently advocated the development and strengthening of friendship between Poland and the USSR. The TPPR is now improving its work and has outlined plans designed to strengthen the political, ideological, and economic foundations of the Polish-Soviet alliance and friendship on class principles. In our work, we count on enriching and expanding the cooperation with the Soviet-Polish Friendship Society -- our fraternal organization in the USSR.

T. Porebski, member of the Politburo and secretary of the PZPR Central Committee, addressed the congress delegates on behalf of the PZPR leadership. He stressed that the fraternal countries' unity is becoming increasingly significant in face of the danger threatening the socialist community and the whole world from the imperialist forces. This unity means primarily all-round internationalist cooperation in all spheres.

The speaker stated that the statements by Yu. V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, have been received with full approval in Poland. Once again the peoples around the world have been able to see for themselves that the Soviet Union is the guarantor of peace throughout the world.

Now, when we are a target for U.S. missiles, when attempts are being made to isolate Poland in the international arena, and when people are resorting to various sanctions against Poland, the Polish people find unfailing support from the USSR. The expansion of economic, scientific, and technical cooperation with the socialist countries and in particular with the Soviet Union is the irreversible direction of our economic policy.

This congress, T. Porebski said in conclusion, will determine the program of its activity. The consolidation of Polish-Soviet friendship and cooperation is the inalienable task of the PZPR and all political forces which hold socialist positions and of all figures on the ideological front.

In the corridors of the Congress Hall we talked with railroad worker Romuald DRabik. "For all of us," he said, "Polish-Soviet friendship is no abstract concept. It is manifested in everyday matters."

Participating in the congress' work were W. Jaruzelski, first secretary of the PZPR Central Committee and chairman of the Polish Council of Ministers, other Polish leaders, and guests from the Soviet Union.

Friendship Cooperation Protocol Signed

LD240726 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0304 GMT 24 Dec 83

[Text] A protocol on cooperation in 1984 between the Union of Soviet Societies for Friendship and Cultural Links with Foreign Countries, the Soviet-Polish Friendship Society, and the Polish-Soviet Friendship Society has been signed in Warsaw. Provisions were included for expanding and enriching cultural and tourist exchanges. An extensive program of joint measures has been drawn up devoted to the 67th anniversary of the Great October Revolution and the 40th anniversary of the formation of the Polish People's Republic.

TRUD RECALLS SOVIET WAR SACRIFICES FOR POLAND

PM231523 Moscow TRUD in Russian 18 Dec 83 p 3

[Correspondent Yu. Vasilkov dispatch under the rubric "From the Journalist's Notebook": "Obelisk by the Road"]

[Text] Opole Voivodship, Poland -- When you travel out of the voivodship center of Opole to Tarnow, on the right not far from the station on the edge of a grove of oaks stands a modest obelisk. There are no doubt thousands of similar ones on the vast expanse from Moscow to Berlin. On them, you can trace the full heroism of the path of the Soviet soldiers who saved the world from fascism. But the Tarnow memorial has a special history.

...There are fewer and fewer veterans left for whom those days are not pages of history or newsreel sequences, but living memories. Norbert Lesiak was born and grew up in Tarnow. His childhood years were during wartime. It was not imagined fairytale evil spirits or werewolves that frightened the children then, but living people in gray greatcoats. When the adults started saying that the Red Army was beating the fascists and would soon arrive in Tarnow, the child's imagination pictured fabulous horsemen on white chargers galloping so furiously that their hooves barely touched the ground.

When they arrived they were tired, smelt of gunpowder, and tobacco, and were just people. But they were amazingly strong and amazingly good people. Thinking back to those days, Norbert invariably sees callused soldiers' hands reaching out to give him a piece of bread -- which was at that time the choicest of tidbits.

Antoni Skorupa was nearly twice Norbert's age and therefore did not leave with the women, children, and old men for the depths of the forest when the battles to liberate Tarnow began. A tragedy which he has remembered all his life was played out before his very eyes. It was from that very grove on the village outskirts that a Soviet scout tank emerged. Little did the tank crew know that a Hitlerite artillery detachment was dug in nearby. They fired point-blank at the daring men's vehicle...

Antoni took part in the Soviet tank crew's funeral, and he placed a plaque of smashed armor plating on the edge of his plot in memory of those who had brought his people freedom.

Time passed. Norbert finished school and then the institute and went to work at the local lime plant. He worked his way up from rank and file engineer to director. Antoni continued to be occupied with peasant work. Although their fates turned out differently, they happened to meet.

The year 1980 was ending. A wave of anarchy was sweeping Poland with growing strength. Some people were ready to destroy everything by which the country had been living since the war. Erase everything, throw everything away, and turn everything inside out. Even Soviet soldiers' exploits were called into question.

The forgetful and simple-minded could be muddled, the spineless and weak intimidated.

It was at this very time that Antoni Skorlupa went to see Lesiak, who was known in the village not only as a plant director but also as a communist of principle. He told him about the unusual memorial he had kept in his house.

"People ought to be reminded to whom they owe their freedom, reminded right now," Antoni asserted.

That was how the idea of perpetuating the courage of the unknown tank crew came about. The story of their heroic deaths had become famed throughout the village. Activists from the local department of the Polish-Soviet Friendship Society organized the fund raising and craftsmen were found to create the monument.

Do not think that there were no doubters among those allegedly supporting the idea. There were. Is it, they said, worth stoking up the situation even more at such a complex period...But to this Lesiak categorically replied: The majority will be on our side!

He was not wrong. Thousands of people came to the memorial's unveiling on 23 January 1981. The ceremony was solemn and moving. Each person read over a few times the words hewn in the obelisk: "The Opole fragment of a Soviet tank from the Guards' 3d Tank Army of the 1st Ukrainian Front, which along with its crew fell victim to a Hitlerite shell in the battle to liberate our parish, is perpetuated by the inhabitants of the village of Tarnow." At the foot of the memorial was a plaque of armor plating from the tank -- the one that for many years had lain on Antoni Skorupa's plot. The number 2535 was visible. Maybe these figures will eventually help trace the names of the fallen soldiers.

Since that memorable winter's day, the tradition has begun of going to lay fresh flowers at the obelisk on ceremonial occasions. This tradition, of course, was not to the liking of those who oppose friendship between our peoples. But how can you openly oppose such a matter? Then they started to direct their attacks against those through whose efforts the memorial had been set up. They sent abusive and threatening letters, spread slander, and wove intrigues. They demanded that Director Lesiak remove a portrait of V.I. Lenin from his office wall. When he refused he was openly threatened that if he did not resign himself he would be carted out of the plant on a wheel barrow. They even set the date: 20 December, 1981.

They were a week short of implementing their bandit designs...

...And the modest obelisk stands near the highway into Tarnow, a monument to courage and valor, qualities necessary not only when guns are blazing and shells bursting.

U.S. TIGHTENING SECURITY AT EUROPEAN BASES

ID231537 Moscow in English to North America 0001 GMT 23 Dec 83

[Pavel Kuznetsov commentary]

[Text] The United States European Command has ordered the 330,000 troops in Europe to tighten security around their bases. The measures being taken range from checking identities of those entering installations to putting up barricades at entrances to military compounds. These orders came in the wake of unprecedented security measures to guard the White House and key federal buildings to Washington. The explanation is that tight security has been introduced to prevent terrorist attacks. However, according to President Reagan, whose sleep is not interrupted by any fears, there were no specific threats that prompted the moves. He said this at his recent news conference.

In the absence of specific threats these moves are meant to drum up support for the President and the way he handles foreign policy, and also to justify whatever steps he is taking abroad; from Lebanon, where the Marines are being drawn into a direct conflict, to Western Europe where the situation has deteriorated following the deployment of the new American missiles.

In a way, the order for a heightened state of security around United States military installations in Europe is a kind of state of alert, though it doesn't compare with what is known as yellow or red light alert for combat preparedness. Those who saw the ABC film "The Day After" may have some very unpleasant feelings about the orders of the United States European Command. In actual fact, the command's orders do reflect a higher state of combat preparedness. Several days ago, British Defense Minister Michael Heseltine ordered to put British troops at the Greenham Common base between the United States soldiers and the peace compaigners to prevent bloodshed. In London they fear the the American troops can open fire at the demonstrators. If such an order comes from a key cabinet member, it can only mean that United States troops in Europe are indeed in a state of some alert: Live ammunition is not issued for nothing.

Opposition to the American presence in Lebanon is called terrorism. Opposition to the deployment of cruise and Pershing-2 missiles in Western Europe is also linked with terrorism. In other words, this world appears to be one huge terrorist nest, while the Reagan administration appears to be the only group of responsible people on a civilized mission thousands of miles away from American soil. Doesn't it sound somewhat ridiculous when the world is blamed for being out of step with President Reagan? He never said publicly that he believes in Armageddon or the last battle (?starting) the end of the world, but he does believe in it, himself having said once "I think whenever that time comes, the generation that's here will have to go on doing what they believe is right." Those whom he calls terrorists, be it in the Middle East, Western Europe or elsewhere, don't want any Armageddons, local or global. By so doing, they are fighting a special brand of terrorism: Reagan's foreign policy.

U.S. ACTIONS TOWARD TURKISH CYPRUS 'HYPOCRISY'

LD271202 Moscow in Greek to Greece 1900 GMT 23 Dec 83

[Text] Sooner or later the truth will out. This simple truth was confirmed a few days ago by Ertekun, foreign minister of the so-called independent state of northern Cyprus. The government of the republic, Ertekun said, has decided to hand over to the U.S. Army military bases on its territory on the same terms as Turkey.

It would be a little difficult to express more succinctly all the real motives of the latest developments in Cyprus concerning the separatist action of the Turkish community's leadership, our commentator Robert Serebrennikov writes. The tragedy experienced today by the Cypriot people expresses all of Washington's hypocrisy and pseudopiety. In other words, the Reagan administration claims that allegedly it condemns the illegal separatist action of the leadership of the Turkish Cypriot community and therefore it is not even considering recognition of the self-proclaimed state. So far, so good. However, it is well known that the United States looks at the Cyprus problem only through the perspective of the island's military-strategic significance, seeking to achieve a solution that would allow the Pentagon to turn it into an unsinkable aircraft carrier. To this end, Washington is trying to perserve the partition of Cyprus, which allows it to maintain the entire situation on the island under its control.

The U.S. military makes very active use of the British war bases in Cyprus. It is from these very bases that the American U-2 and RC-135 spy planes take off. The Pentagon's appetite is, however, increasing. For this reason, as democratic circles in Cyprus believe with justification, the declaration of the newly-formed Turkish republic in the northern part of the island meets first and foremost the interests of the United States because it is just such a settlement of the Cyprus problem which gives it the chance to create a launch pad for its Rapid Deployment Force at the crossroads of three continents. This action against Cyprus became possible only in the present conditions of the extreme heightening of tension of the international situation as a result of the adventurist, militarist line of the U.S. Administration, which is pushing the world to the brink of nuclear catastrophe. The declaration of Denktash's state gives the green light for attaching the northern part of Cyprus to the orbit of U.S. military preparations and for turning it into a launch pad against the Arab countries, the Soviet Union, and the other socialist countries.

Thus the truth of the justified TASS statement of 18 November 1983 is confirmed. It stressed that the separatist action of the leadership of the Turkish Cypriot community is leading the situation in Cyprus and in this area in general to a dangerous aggravation, our commentator Robert Serebrennikov concludes.

U.S.-GREEK DEFENSE COOPERATION EXAMINED

LD271216 Moscow in Greek to Greece 1900 GMT 23 Dec 83

[Station commentary]

[Excerpts] Dear listeners, ratification documents have been exchanged in Athens which will bring into force the Greek-U.S. agreement on economic and defense cooperation beginning on 31 December. Our commentator writes:

There is very little time left before the U.S. military presence in Greece will once again become legal for another 6 and 1/2 years. As is known, the Greek-U.S. negotiations were conducted for a fairly lengthy period and were frequently suspended.

The Greek Government did succeed in moving one step closer to limiting the U.S. military presence [word indistinct], which one would not have expected during the time of the country's rule right-wing regimes. However, is it possible for one to suppose that this presence has ceased to exert a negative influence on the domestic and foreign policies of Greece? According to all indications, no one can make this assumption because, as before, the 40 U.S. military installations, including the nuclear ones, will remain intact.

Again, as before, these installations will threaten the country's national security and that of its neighbors like the sword of Damocles. Fully aware of precisely this fact, the United States agreed to satisfy some of the Greek demands. Despite this, however, the United States at the same time was hoping that time would be on its side. In other words, the Americans hope that good times -- for them -- will once more return to Greece. It is exactly because of this that the Greek communists put before the government the question of the necessity of eliminating the U.S. military presence in Greece in the not too distant future, a presence which creates realistic dangers for the country's peaceful future.

U.S. PRESSURE, INTERFERENCE IN SPAIN CRITICIZED

LD241324 Moscow in Spanish to Spain 2000 GMT 23 Dec 83

[Viktor Akimov commentary: "Spain and U.S. Policy"]

[Text] The basic principles of the Reagan administration's policy were formulated in a document drawn up by Theberge, the Republican Party National Committee's advisor on Spanish and Latin American affairs. In essence, these principles attach greater importance in the future to Spanish-U.S. relations, greater importance than was given during the Carter administration. Theberge recommended that U.S. diplomacy be more flexible in its policy toward Spain and should bear in mind the prospects for Spain's entry into the Atlantic community. U.S. diplomacy invariably follows these recommendations. It considered and considers preventing the country from slipping into neutralism to be the most important thing for U.S. interests in Spain, making Spain's participation in NATO more active and retaining U.S. military bases in Spain. At the same time, plans are being made to incorporate Spain into the NATO bloc's military organization.

The Spanish-U.S. military agreement on bases, signed last year, falls within the framework which Washington and its allies have allocated to Spain within NATO: strengthening the Atlantic bloc's southern flank. The Reagan administration does not conceal the fact that the bases leased by the Pentagon are necessary to the U.S. Rapid Deployment Forces in case conflicts break out in the Middle East, North Africa, or the Persian Gulf region.

There is another problem: It is well-known that, according to the new aggreement, Washington cannot deploy nuclear weapons at the bases in Spain on its own account. However, as the Spanish press points out, the possibility of U.S. nuclear weapons beings transported is not being ruled out if unforeseen circumstances arise which would lead to this. This means that bloc discipline, or the so-called Atlantic solidarity, could be the levers to break possible resistance by the Spaniards and to show them the need to deploy nuclear weapons in Spain. The growth of antiwar feelings in Spain, the movement against the deployment of U.S. medium-range nuclear missiles in West Europe, and the promise by the government of Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez to hold a referendum on NATO causes irritation in the United States.

Spain's aspiration to a certain autonomy within the framework of the Atlantic community does not suit the Reagan administration. The United States cannot allow a sovereign state to follow an independent policy. It is not for this reason that in the United States they are talking about destabilizing the socialist government? The Spanish magazine ACTUAL writes about this and says that the U.S. CIA is preparing a coup against Spanish Foreign Minister Fernando Moran. More than once, Washington has resorted to similar methods toward governments of friendly countries, thereby defending interests which are of vital importance to the United States in other countries.

As the Spanish press says, Washington can also resort to other levers to exert pressure on Spain. One of them is the economy. Not long ago, Minister of Economy and Finance Boyer spoke in the Cortes about the Spanish economy's dependence on U.S. economic policy. For example, Spain's trade deficit with the United States amounts to over $1.5 billion and all Madrid's attempts to put bilateral trade and economic relations on an equal basis are unsuccessful. Spain's debt in dollars to the United States is also growing. The weekly CAMBIO-16 says frankly that Washington could strangle the socialist government if an extension to the payment of the foreign debt is not obtained in the next 2 years.

Such, listeners, are some of the aspects of Spanish-U.S. relations which demonstrate Washington's aspiration to impose on Spain a policy which it wants to see carried out.

FRENCH TU LEADER KRASUCKI ON VISIT TO USSR

PM231718 Moscow TRUD in Russian 17 Dec 83 p 3

[Unattributed report: "Completion of Visit"]

[Text] A final conversation has been held between a delegation of the French General Labor Confederation (CGT) led by H. Krasucki, member of the French Communist Party Politburo and secretary general of the CGT, and a delegation of Soviet trade unions led by S.A. Shalayev, chairman of the AUCCTU. The results of the delegation's visit to the Soviet Union were summarized and a joint communique agreed on.

There was a meeting between the CGT delegation and Soviet press representatives. The delegation's leader Henri Krasucki shared his impressions of the trip to the USSR and the talks, meetings, and conversations which had been held, and answered journalists' questions.

Our delegation's visit to the Soviet Union, he said, is a continuation of the long-standing cooperation which exists between the CGT and the AUCCTU. The delegation's leader noted the great importance of the visit to France by a Soviet trade union delegation led by S. Shalayev, chairman of the AUCCTU, which took place at the beginning of this year. It resulted in the signing of an agreement on a program of further cooperation between the two countries' trade unions. We can now talk of the results. We are very satisfied with everything that has been accomplished during this period.

During the visit to your country, Henri Krasucki continued, we gained a full idea of all areas of the activity of Soviet trade unions. We were able to see for ourselves that in the Soviet Union new forms of labor organization are developing successfully, the team method of work is being introduced everywhere at enterprises, the law on labor collectives is being actively implemented, and interesting measures for improving production management are being carried out. All this has the broad support of Soviet working people.

For us who are friends of the Soviet Union, it is clear that this is a qualitative new step. We have seen how the role and importance of Soviet trade unions have grown, which attests to the further development of socialist democracy in your country. Everywhere we have felt Soviet people's devotion to and striving for peace. Together with the AUCCTU delegation, our delegation studied the possibility of developing cooperation, including on the important issue of the struggle for peace.

We, like almost all trade unions in West Europe, resolutely condemn the deployment by the U.S. Administration of its medium-range nuclear missiles on the European Continent, and its intention to turn this continent into a nuclear volcano. The CGT supports the antiwar movement which has been launched in Europe and throughout the world.

U.S. FEARS 'REMAINING ALONE' IN LEBANON

LD241211 Moscow World Service in English 0710 GMT 24 Dec 83

[Viktor Olin commentary]

[Text] The American defense secretary, Caspar Weinberger, has admitted the administration's failed attempts to involve other countries in what is known as the Multinational Force in Lebanon. Our commentary has been written by Viktor Olin:

In a talk with journalists in Washington the defense secretary said a major effort had been made and was being made to persuade other countries to send their troops to Lebanon. At least 15 countries had refused. The defense secretary said he wanted to see a greater striving for cooperation.

The time since World War II has seen many instances in which the United States tried to cover up its role of policeman and aggressor in world affairs by involving the forces of its allies. It has proved to be quite satisfied with the sending of symbolic army contingents. One case in point is Korea, which American forces invaded under the flag of a UN international force. In Vietnam the United States tried to cloak their aggression by tiny contingents from Australia, New Zealand and South Korea. In the latest invasion of Grenada, thousands of American Marines chaperoned several hundred troops from the Caribbean. And in Nicaragua the United States is putting its stakes on the puppet regimes in Guatemala, Honduras, and El Salvador, after seeing the futility of trying to overthrow the Sandinista Government with the help of Somoza.

But most of the world's attention is now riveted to America's direct military interference in Lebanon. American Marines came to Beirut for the professed aim of ensuring peace in Lebanon and security for the Palestinians. But their assurances evolved into the Israeli-staged massacres at the refugee camps at Sabra and Shatila, and their promises of peace have resulted in American naval bombardments and air raids against Lebanese communities. Consequently, Lebanon and the Middle East as a whole are as far from peace and security now as they were in the days leading up to the American Marine landing. In fact there is now a threat to another Arab country, Syria; the threat of American intervention involving Israel, an ally. Little wonder there have been more and more advocates of an early withdrawal from Lebanon both in the United States and in the countries it has argued into participating in the so-called Multinational Force in Lebanon.

Like the first swallow, the Italian Government has announced that it is pulling back half of its contingent. It is out of fear of remaining alone that Washington is now trying to involve other countries in its adventure. In his talk with the journalists, Caspar Weinberger affected naive incomprehension, saying he could not understand why nobody was hurrying to heed his invitation and send troops to Lebanon. The answer is clear. Nobody is willing any more to take on a share of the responsibility for the dangerous consequences of the aggressive U.S. course in the Middle East.

U.S. 'NOT APPLYING ANY BRAKES' IN MIDEAST POLICY

LD241835 Moscow World Service in English 1410 GMT 24 Dec 83

[Text] In Lebanon this week Israeli Air Force planes have again bombed the area of the city of Ba'labakk and populated centers along the highway between Beirut and Damascus.

At the same time American warships keep shelling villages east of Beirut that are controlled by Lebanese patriotic forces and Syrian units from the inter-Arab peace keeping force in Lebanon. There are all indications of an esclation of the United States armed intervention, writes our commentator Valentin Lapin.

American forces are also coordinating all their actions with Israel. With each passing step in the military escalation there is the mounting danger that a big conflict may erupt in the Middle East.

The United States and Israel are openly provoking Syria by shelling its army contingents in the eastern area of Lebanon. The commanding officers of the American forces in Lebanon have been granted carte blanche in selecting any targets for shelling and bombing. Permission was given to take decisions about such attacks on the spot. This certainly amounts to a go-ahead signal for new, highly dangerous provocations. The White House does not seem to be applying any brakes in its Middle East policy. That causes serious anxiety everywhere. Many Americans themselves fear that the events in Lebanon can lead to war similar to the one their country waged in Vietnam. Washington's partners in the so-called multinational peacekeeping force in Lebanon are also concerned.

Italy for one is beginning to review its military-technical presence in Beirut, according to its defense Minister Spadolini and the Italian public is pressing for a complete pull-out from the American venture in Lebanon. The public of Britain and France is also calling for the withdrawal of the troops of these two countries. Nearly 15 countries to which Washington has proposed joining the multinational force have declined the offer. In a bid to convince his allies and his own people, President Reagan has made a whole series of speeches, explaining that the United States is allegedly engaged in a peace-making mission in Lebanon. But in his speeches he has failed to explain why the peace-keepers fire on civilians. The United States has resorted to armed force apparently to establish an order in Lebanon that would suit only itself and Israel. In other words Lebanon and the other Arab nations are offered American terms at gunpoint.

This aggressive policy is precisely the cause for the current Lebanese tragedy, for the tension in the Middle East as a whole. The only alternative is a political settlement. It must first of all rule out armed interference by the United States and Israel in Lebanese affairs. For this purpose it is necessary to have Israeli troops pulled out from Lebanese territory, along with the American troops and other foreign troops accompanying them in Lebanon.

ISRAEL 'RAIDS' ON LEBANESE TERRITORY DECRIED

LD210630 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 20 Dec 83

[Andrey Popov reports from Beirut]

[Text] Continuing to whip up tension in Lebanon, Israeli military aircraft again carried out raids on Lebanese territory during the past day, firing missiles and dropping bombs on areas of the towns of Aley and (Bhamdoun). According to a report from the country's national patriotic forces, this time a hospital was the target for the Israeli Air Force.

Despite the fact that the roofs of all hospital buildings are covered with large sheets showing a red cross, which is undoubtedly very visible to the Israeli pilots, they nevertheless fired on the building. There are dead and injured.

Israeli officials stated after the raid that their pilots are destroying military targets on the territory of Lebanon. It is not the first time that they have made such statements.

However, one asks oneself: On what basis is Israel violating Lebanese airspace? Is it carrying out missile and air strikes against individual areas of the country? Despite the agreement with the Lebanese Government signed under the aegis of the United States, Israel is continuing to impudently flout all rights of this independent Arab country. Such a policy by the Israeli leaders is being encouraged by the White House administration. The strategic relations between the United States and Israel are aimed at establishing U.S. imperialist supremacy in the Near East, destroying the progressive forces of this region, and suppressing the national liberation movement.

However, no bombings or shellings will be able to break the Lebanese people's will for freedom and independence. As was noted in a conversation with us by Fu'ad Salman, the general secretary of the Progressive Socialist Party of Lebanon, the country's national patriotic forces have grown considerably stronger in the struggle. They are preserving their unity and are determined to fight for peace, and the freedom, independence and territorial integrity of Lebanon. Solidarity and support on the part of all peace-loving forces and the countries of the socialist community, led by the Soviet Union, are the guarantee of success in this struggle, Fu'ad Salman stressed.

CORRECTION TO ITALY'S URGING LEBANON WITHDRAWAL

The following correction to the item headlined "Italy Urges Withdrawal," published in the 27 December Soviet Union DAILY REPORT on page H 4 was supplied by TASS at 1605 GMT on 23 December.

First paragraph, from the end of the first line, TASS reads...withdrawn from there.

According to a REUTER report from Rome the president emphasized that Italy... (supplying additional words)

REAGAN EXTENDS LIBYAN IMPORT BAN AS 'PUNISHMENT'

LD241551 Moscow TASS in English 1437 GMT 24 Dec 83

[Text] Washington December 24 TASS -- President Reagan prolonged for an indefinite period of time the ban on imports of Libyan petroleum and petroleum products to the United States, with a view of "punishing" Libya's leadership for its independent course in the international scene.

The prolongation of the "petroleum ban", introduced in 1982, with the help of which the U.S. Administration hopes to undermine Libya's economy and financial position, is accompanied by the calls for staging secret operations to overthrow the regime which exists in that Arab country. Such a demand was made a few days ago by president of the so-called American Centre for International Security Joseph Cherba, known by his exclusively tight links with Reagan and his close aides.

SOVIET-LIBYAN FRIENDSHIP MARKED IN TURKMENISTAN

GF261456 Ashkhabad TURKMENSKAYA ISKRA in Russian 13 Dec 83 p 1

[Text] The days of Soviet-Libyan friendship were concluded in Turkmenistan. In the course of these days, the Libyan guests talked with the republic's leaders and trade union officials and met with scientists and workers of various enterprises. The guests viewed the Karakum canal named after V.I. Lenin and its installations and visited the Turkmen SSR national economic products exhibition.

They talked with the agricultural workers of the Sotsiyalizm Kolkhoz in Ashkhabad Rayon and acquainted themselves with their life, labor, and living conditions.

A book exhibition displaying books authored by Libyan writers was opened at the Turkmen State Museum of Fine Arts. The Libyan friends donated many of these books to the Turkmen state library named after Karl Marx.

"The days of Soviet-Libyan friendship in Turkmenistan have made our peoples closer," said Ahmad az-Zarryk, member of the Libyan delegation and one of the leaders of the Libya-USSR Society. He added: We are once more convinced with our own eyes that there are many things in common between our countries and peoples. We are proud of the friendship with the USSR and with all efforts we will develop it.

The Libyan guests have left Ashkhabad.

SUPREME SOVIET CONGRATULATES BAHRAIN AMIR

LD201936 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 20 Dec 83

[Text] The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium has sent a telegram to Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman al-Khalifah, the amir of Bahrain, which, in connection with the country's national holiday, has conveyed to him and the friendly people of Bahrain heartfelt congratulations and good wishes.

In his telegram of reply, the amir of Bahrain expressed thanks for the congratulations and for his part wished the friendly Soviet people further progress and prosperity.

AFGHAN REFUGEES CONDUCT ACTIVITIES IN IRAN

GF260758 Moscow in Persian to Iran 1500 GMT 25 Dec 83

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] GODOK daily writes that recently KEYHAN daily reported an incident that took place in the capital of Iran. According to KEYHAN, three armed men attacked a guard at a (?cooperative) store located in a block-making factory in Tehran, drugged him, and bound his hands and feet. The attackers then broke into the store and made away with whatever they could find. The hoodlums found a truck parked near the store in which two persons were sleeping. They held up the vehicle and forced the occupants to carry their loot. When the hoodlums met with resistance they killed the driver and wounded his helper and drove away in the truck. Later these criminals were arrested. During the investigation it was discovered that they were Afghan criminals that had taken refuge in Iran.

This incident is in no way exceptional as hardly a day passes that such heroism does not take place in Tehran localities. This is the real picture of the so-called mujahedin fighting for freedom. These mujahedin are in fact hired hoods who have accepted to attack the Afghanistan territory under orders of the U.S. CIA.

The UPI News Agency, which is a part of the American propaganda organization, always praises these bands of armed hoodlums and has also made a movie called "Afghanistan (?and the Secret War)," which is all lies. The facts themselves disclose the lies of the UPI. Plunder, murder, theft, and armed robbery is included in the long list of the crimes being committed by the Afghan counterrevolutionaries, and this list is not exhaustive.

One must mention that these false fighters for freedom are first of all engaged in narcotics smuggling. And because Iranian territory is open to the anti-Afghan elements they are engaged in that secret trade in Iran. The leaders of these counter-revolutionaries pocket a major portion of revenues obtained from narcotics smuggling. These people who claim to be fighting for Islam are making a profit from this hated trade.

There is also a large group of Afghan refugees who gather every day in a Tehran locality. These are the people with pale faces and torn clothing who stand there for long hours waiting for relief. These are ordinary people of Afghanistan who have been misled by the propaganda of the former feudalists and capitalists in Afghanistan and who left following the counterrevolutionary leaders. These ordinary people do not engage in crime or narcotics trade but are living under conditions of abject poverty. However, they are being controlled by the band leaders and are forced to donate their last penny to the jihad fund.

It is a well-known fact that many Afghan refugees want to return to their country. However, this is easier said than done because the counterrevolutionary band leaders keep the ordinary Afghan refugees in Iran in a state of terror. Whoever wants to return to Afghanistan is instantly dubbed as apostate and is severely punished.

SIERRA LEONE'S AMBASSADOR DEPARTS MOSCOW

LD232041 Moscow TASS in English 1642 GMT 23 Dec 83

[Text] Moscow December 23 TASS -- Ambassador of the Republic of Sierra Leone in the USSR Eya Atoam Mbayo left Moscow today.

USSR'S RYZHOV RECEIVES GHANAIAN ENVOY 22 DEC

PM231532 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 23 Dec 83 Morning Edition p 3

[TASS report under general heading "Official Reports"]

[Text] N.S. Ryzhov, USSR deputy foreign minister, received John Kofi (Barku Tettega), Ghanaian ambassador to the USSR, on 22 December in connection with the forthcoming presentation of his credentials.

ANGOLA REPORTS S. AFRICAN AIR, GROUND ATTACKS

LD262214 Moscow TASS in English 2141 GMT 26 Dec 83

[Text] Luanda December 26 TASS -- The Army of the racist Republic of South Africa is carrying on its aggression against the People's Republic of Angola, a communique released by the Angolan Defence Ministry here says. On December 25, according to the document, 12 Mirage planes of the South African Air Force heavily bombed the Cahama community in the Cunene Province. During the raid two enemy planes were shot down by the People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola (FAPLA).

On December 26, the communique says, FAPLA troops continued to repulse the air and ground attacks of the regular army of South Africa near Cahama and Cuvelao in the Cunene Province. Fierce fighting continues.

'TERRORIST GROUPS' U.S. 'TOOL' in S. AFRICA

LD240031 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1800 GMT 23 Dec 83

[From the Vremya newscast]

[Text] The military establishment of the racist South Africa is expanding its aggression against the People's Republic of Angola. As the communique of the Defense Ministry of Angola reports, South African interventionists have hit the city of Caiundo with missiles and bombs. Following that, the troops of the interventionists attempted to capture this inhabited locality and attacked the positions of the People's Armed Forces of Liberation of Angola. This attack was successfully repelled; the aggressors have suffered considerable losses. At the microphone is Vikentiy Matveyev, IZVESTIYA's political observer:

Hello, comrades! Eight years ago, after persistent struggle, the people of Angola achieved independence, and repelled, with the help of their friends, the advance of the troops of the racist regime of South Africa towards the capital of Angola, Luanda. The whole territory of the country was cleared of the interventionists. However, neither in Pretoria nor in Washington are they willing to be reconciled with the changes that have taken place in that part of Africa.

The UN Security Council, four times in the past 5 years, has adopted resolutions demanding that an end be put to South Africa's military actions against Angola. Only a couple of days ago a new resolution with the same demand was adopted by 14 votes with 1 abstention, that of the U.S. delegate.

The scope of South Africa's gross military interference in Angola's affairs is not diminishing but widening. This creates a threat to the cause of peace, and not only on a local scale. What we are talking about here is a three-stage mechanism of interference. The United States is pushing South Africa, and its rulers use as their tool the terrorist groups of the National Union for Total Independence of Angola [UNITA], operating in the south of Angola together with South African troops, and representing mercenary forces and local puppets which are armed not only by the United States but by other NATO members. For instance, the Bonn authorities see nothing shameful in the fact that in that city the so-called representation of UNITA operates, which even publishes bulletins about the bandit operations in Angola. Apparently, the UN Security Council decisions carry no weight with the FRG Government, nor with a number of other Western governments which protect inveterate cutthroats while they vote for the UN resolution condemning international terrorism.

The leaders of the imperialist mercenaries represented by UNITA even publish ultimatums and threaten a march on Luanda. Their power, of couse, doesn't extend that far. But they who arm these bandits bear a serious responsibility for mass murders, for tortures of innocent people and for material destruction wreaked by the South Africans and their puppets. The people of Angola have the means to defend their democratic achievements; it had, has, and will have faithful friends. The enemies of Angola should keep this in mind, the old order cannot be revived, however generous a supply it enjoys of arms from imperialist centers.

MORE SHELLING OF ANGOLA BY S. AFRICA NOTED

LD271314 Moscow TASS in English 1140 GMT 27 Dec 83

[Text] Luanda December 27 TASS-- TASS correspondents Nikolay Semenov and Viktor Makhonin report:

Scorched ruins of buildings and destroyed bridges, airbomb holes, refugees on roads and overcrowded hospirals -- this is how southern areas of Angola, which fell victim to a new aggression committed by the racist Republic of South Africa, look in the last days of the outgoing year. Fierce fighting against South African interventionists, who intruded into the young republic with U.S. direct complicity, is under way in Cuando-Cubango, Huila and Cunene Provinces.

The blood of innocent people is being spilled again. Old men, women and children are being killed by bombs and shells, fired by troops of the Republic of South Africa. The town of Cangamba, 500 kilometres away from the Namibian frontier, has practically been razed to the ground. The towns of Cassinga and Cahama were wrecked, like many other settlements of Angola. Direct economic damage, inflicted upon the republic as a result of Pretoria racists' incessant aggressive actions, already exceeds 12,000 million dollars.

The freedom-loving Angolan people are fully determined to defend the revolutionary gains. The occupationists are sustaining considerable losses. As is noted in the communique of the Defence Ministry of the People's Republic of Angola, on December 25, 12 "Mirage" planes subjected the town of Cahama (Cunene Province) to massive bomb strikes. Two planes of the racists were shot down during the raid by anti-aircraft defence batteries of the People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola (FAPLA).

In 1983 FAPLA units held successful operations against terroristic UNITA grouping, which is acting on the instruction of the U.S. CIA as part of South Africa's regular army, and inflicted serious losses upon that grouping. About 3,000 bandits were killed in the fighting near the town of Cangamba alone.

In complicated conditions of imperialist aggression, the MPLA-Workers Party put forward the slogan "Everything for the front -- everything for the victory". Workers, peasants, employees replied to the party's call with their selfless labour. Social emulation drive was launched at industrial enterprises for pre-term implementation of planned assignments. People's vigilance teams are being formed in towns and villages.

ANGOLA'S JORGE DENOUNCES U.S. 'VICIOUS POLICY'

LD261409 Moscow TASS in English 1312 GMT 26 Dec 83

[Text] Luanda December 26 TASS -- Angola's Foreign Affairs Minister Paulo Jorge has described the Soviet peace initiatives, advanced by Yuriy Andropov, as humane moves directed at improving international climate and preventing nuclear war. He stressed that these initiatives enjoy understanding and support of the MPLA-Workers' Party and the Angolan Government.

The efforts by the Soviet Union and other socialist countries to prevent nuclear war, curb the arms race and achieve general and complete disarmament, Paulo Jorge told TASS correspondent Nikolay Semenov, are acquiring particular significance in connection with the started deployment of American cruise missiles and Pershings in Western Europe. This dangerous first-strike weaponry enhances the real risk of nuclear catastrophe, which cannot but give rise to concern to all progressive forces on earth.

Paulo Jorge resolutely denounced the vicious policy of the U.S. Administration that, under the pretext of defending its "vital interests", acts from the position of strength, which has already resulted in the emergence of numerous seats of tension in the world. As to Angola, U.S. imperialism is conducting subversive activities against the legitimate government of Angola, is seeking to overthrow it with aid from the racist South African regime and the puppet terrorist grouping, UNITA.

The Angolan foreign minister favoured termination of foreign interference in Chad's affairs.

He denounced Washington's threats against Cuba and Nicaragua, its involvement in the suppression of the national liberation movement in El Salvador. By carrying out its barbarous invasion of Grenada, Paulo Jorge said, the American administration openly violated norms of international law and principles of the U.N. Charter. In Asia, imperialism launched machinations against the peoples of Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea, in the Middle East -- against the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples. Of particular menace to the Middle East are the Lebanon-based American troops, disguised as "multinational forces", who became accomplices of the Israeli aggressors.

SENEGALESE POLICE 'CLASH' WITH SEPARATISTS

PM221858 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 Dec 83 Morning Edition p 5

[TASS dispatch: "Clash With Separatists"]

[Text] Dakar, 20 Dec -- Nineteen people have been killed and 80 wounded as a result of a clash between separatist elements and police in the center of the southern Senelalese region of Casamance -- Ziguinchor City.

According to official Senagelse Government communique broadcast on the radio, a group of armed people tried to seize the administrative buildings and police station in Ziguinchor 18 December. The attack was repulsed by the security forces, which have complete control of the situation in the city, the document notes. Arrests have been made.

The separatists are demanding the separation of the Casamance region from Senegal and the proclamation of its independence.

COMMENTATOR VIEWS ETHIOPIAN PARTY ORGANIZATION

LD280252 Moscow in English to Africa 1700 GMT 23 Dec 83

[From "Africa as We See It" feature]

[Text] Four years have passed since a commission was set up in Ethiopia to organize a party of the working people. Nikolay Fedorov writes the following in comment:

The program for the Ethiopian national democratic revolution noted that the work to lay the foundation for the transition to socialism must be led by a Marxist-Leninist party of working people. A commission to organize the party of the working people came into being later. Judging by the decisions that the commission adopted at its latest congress, the Ethiopian leaders attach great importance to two trends. One is forming party primary units. The other is giving the masses the essentials of the teachings of Marx and Lenin. At all places of work, including urban and farm associations, workers receive political education. The working class in the country plays an increasingly political role. It has taken up the role of leader in society despite its comparatively small membership. Significantly, it was factory workers who began to hold work-for-the-nation days and achieve excellent results. Their initiative has been supported by all other sections of Ethiopian society.

At the dawn of the formation of the communist party in Russia, the leader of the socialist revolution, Vladimir Lenin, remarked that it was not enough to call ourselves a vanguard. It was essential to act in such a way so that the other groups saw and had to admit that we indeed were making progress. The commission to organize the party of the working people of Ethiopia has been confirming with honor its right to the politically leading role in Ethiopian society. The commission set up committees in all 14 provinces in the country. These mobilize the masses to active participation in revolutionary changes and in studying the teachings of Marx and Lenin. They coordinate the activities of mass public organizations such as the trade unions and the associations of women, young people, and farmers. Besides, they energetically help to stamp out illiteracy and press to educate the people who will build a socialist society.

The Ethiopian revolutionary leader, Mengistu Haile Mariam, pointed out in his report to the latest congress of the commission that when the vanguard party of the working people is formed, the organizational structure of the present political system will change. The formation of such a party has entered the final stage. Great attention is being paid to preparing the program and charter of the party that will follow the principles of Marxism-Leninism. The Ethiopian revolutionaries point out the importance, the historical and organizational experience gained by the Soviet Communit Party and other fraternal parties, and by how they saw the complicated problems of political, economic, social, and cultural construction.

PLOT TO ASSASSINATE GUYANESE PRESIDENT UNCOVERED

LD240943 Moscow TASS in English 0925 GMT 24 Dec 83

[Text] Ottawa December 24 TASS -- The Canadian authorities have uncovered a plot aimed at assassinating President Forbes Burnham of Guyana and other cabinet ministers in that South American country.

A press conference in Toronto has been told that eight people, including one American, were arrested in connection with the conspiracy to overthrow the legitimate government of Guyana. The plotters, linked with the so-called Conservative Party of Guyana based in Mississagi, Ontario Province, were found to possess 28 machineguns, six grenade-launchers and 20 automatic pistols with silencers. The weapons were to have been sent via the United States to Guyana to a 20-member terrorist group

Guyana Investigates Plot

LD241307 Moscow TASS in English 1237 GMT 24 Dec 83

[Text] Georgetown December 24 TASS -- President Forbes Burnham of Guyana has told newsmen that his country's security forces have launched an investigation into an anti-government plot.

Guyana, which substantially restricted the activity of transnational corporations and is pursuing an independent policy in the world arena, is a subject of rude political and economic pressure on the part of Washington. This pressure grew considerably when the Reagan administration came to power. In autumn this year, the United States blocked an Inter-American Development Bank loan to Guyana. Washington's actions are assessed here as an openly political measure directed at destabilising the country's economy.

Washington was particularly enraged by Guyana's resolute condemnation of the United States' base aggression against the neighbouring Caribbean country -- Grenada.

CUBA'S RODRIGUEZ CITED ON C. AMERICA, U.S.

LD261514 Moscow TASS in English 1420 GMT 26 Dec 83

[Text] Havana December 26 TASS -- Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, member of the Politbureau of the Communist Party of Cuba, vice chairman of the Cuban Council of State and Council of Ministers, stressed that the Cuban people are loyal to the ideals of the revolution and socialism, are resolved to fight actively for peace all over the world. Speaking in an interview with TASS correspondent Nikolay Chigir, he stressed that Cuba firmly and consistently declares for international detente and strengthening the security of peoples.

We cannot help being worried by the aggressive character of the Reagan administration's foreign policy and the weapons race being whipped up by it, its refusal to resolve burning issues of the present through talks, by the U.S. policy of ensuring military superiority, Carlos Rafael Rodriguez pointed out. We side with the forces resolutely opposing the deployment of new American nuclear missiles in Western Europe, which has got under way. We declare our full support for the Soviet Union's stand, which has been most explicitly spelled out by Yuriy Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, president of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet.

Carlos Rafael Rodriguez pointed out Cuba's solidarity with the peoples of Nicaragua and El Salvador, and said that the Reagan administration had set itself the aim of depriving the Central American countries of the right to pursue an independent policy, to make the peoples of the region accept the order being imposed on them by U.S. imperialism. Cuba favours a negotiated settlement of Central American problems, supports the efforts by the countries of the "Contadora Group" and the Government of Nicaragua. But until now these efforts have not met with a response from Washington.

Touching upon relations between Cuba and the USA, Carlos Rafael Rodriguez said: We are ready to discuss our differences with the United States on the basis of mutual respect, but not on the basis of threats. It is useless to threaten us. Cuba can be wiped out from the face of earth, but it is impossible to make it surrender, put it on its knees.

The Cuban leader spoke highly of the versatile and all-round cooperation between Cuba and the USSR. Cuban-Soviet friendship is indestructible and nobody can shatter it, he said. There is no force that could be able to make us undermine this friendship, which is based on common aspirations, on the ideas of socialism and communism, on absolute respect for Cuba's independence and sovereignty.

SUPREME SOVIET PRESIDIUM REVIEWS PLENUM'S WORK

FM272132 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 28 Dec 83 Morning Edition p 2

[TASS report: "Session of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium"]

[Text] A routine session of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium took place in the Kremlin 27 December.

The session's participants received with deep satisfaction the results of the December (1983) Plenum of the party's Central Committee and the text of the address of Yu. V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. Permeated with realism and concern for the faster transition of the economy to an intensive path of development, this very important political document focuses the attention of the party and people upon key tasks of communist building.

It was noted that the ideas and precepts of the CPSU Central Committee December (1983) Plenum continue to develop the propositions and conclusions of the November (1982) and June (1983) plenums of our party's Central Committee and in their totality constitute a unified political line that maps out clear paths for the improvement of developed socialism at the contemporary stage.

The soviets of peoples deputies perceive the precepts of the CPSU Central Committee plenum and the instructions of Comrade Yu. V. Andropov as a combat program for action. Under conditions of the tense international atmosphere, the organs of people's power will seek even more energetically and purposefully to secure a consolidation of the economic and defensive might of the motherland, the prevention of nuclear war, the curbing of the arms race, and the strengthening of discipline and order, will display tireless concern for the enhancement of the well-being of Soviet people, and will struggle persistently for the firm establishment of lofty communist ideals.

The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium examined questions connected with the holding of the 9th session of the USSR Supreme Soviet, 10th convocation.

Proposals concerning the agenda and order of business of the session of the country's supreme organ of state power were discussed and approved. On the basis of the report by V.A. Masol and N.I. Maslennikov, the chairmen of the USSR Supreme Soviet chambers' Budget and Planning Commissions, the question of completing the work of the Budget and Planning Commissions and other standing commissions of the USSR Supreme Soviet chambers on the preliminary examination of the State Plan for the Economic and Social Development of the USSR for 1984 and the fulfillment of the plan for 1983, and of the USSR State Budget for 1984 and the report on the implementation of the budget during 1982, was examined.

It was noted at the session that the budget and planning, and other standing commissions of the chambers, guided by the precepts of the party Central Committee have performed much useful work. They have familiarized themselves comprehensively and in detail with the state of affairs in the country's national economy and in individual sectors and have made the necessary amendments to the relevant sections of the documents being scrutinized. The commissions' work helped to bring to light unutilized potential and reserves, to enhance the level of balance of the plan and budget, to consolidate the positive results achieved in the current year, and to create prerequisites for the successful fulfillment of the targets for 1984 and of the 5-year plan as a whole.

The question of the submission of decrees adopted in the period between the eight and ninth sessions of the USSR Supreme Soviet for approval by the Supreme Soviet was examined.

The Presidium discussed the question of preparations for the elections to the USSR Supreme Soviet, 11th convocation. A report was delivered by T.N. Menteshashvili, secretary of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. The present election campaign is getting under way at a crucial stage of the struggle for the practical implementation of the decisions of the 26th congress and of subsequent plenums of the CPSU Central Committee. It is taking place under the badge of the further development of socialist democracy [narodovlastiye], the strengthening of the prestige of the soviets at all levels, and of the consolidation of the bloc of communists and nonparty people. The pre-election work is closely linked everywhere with the specific tasks of economic, sociopolitical, and spiritual development and serves to attract citizens on a broader scale into the management of the affairs of the state and society, and to develop the labor and political activeness of Soviet people.

In the adopted resolution, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium draws the attention of the soviets of people's deputies to the need to ensure that the elections to the USSR Supreme Soviet are conducted to a high organizational and ideological-political standard in full accordance with the requirements of the USSR Constitution, the Law on Elections to the USSR Supreme Soviet, and the CPSU Central Committee Resolution "On Tasks of Party Organizations in Connection With Preparations for, and the Holding of, Elections to the USSR Supreme Soviet, 11th Convocation."

Certain other questions of state life were examined at the session.

COUNCIL ELDERS, SOVIET OF NATIONALITIES MEET

LD271851 Moscow TASS in English 1836 GMT 27 Dec 83

[Text] Moscow December 27 TASS -- A joint meeting of the Council of Elders of the Soviet of the Union and the Soviet of Nationalities (chambers) of the USSR Supreme Soviet (parliament) was held in the Kremlin today. Questions of an agenda and a procedure of the ninth session of the USSR Supreme Soviet of the tenth convocation were discussed at the meeting.

Aleksey Shitikov, chairman of the Soviet of the Union, made a report on these questions.

The meeting was presided over by Vitaliy Ruben, chairman of the Soviet of Nationalities.

The meeting was attended by Vasiliy Kuznetsov, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, first vice-president of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, and Tengiz Menteshashvili, secretary of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet.

SUPREME SOVIET GOES INTO SESSION 28 DEC

LD280709 Moscow TASS in English 0707 GMT 28 Dec 83

[Text] Moscow December 28 TASS -- A regular session of the USSR Supreme Soviet has opened here today. Deputies will review the draft State Plan for Socio-Economic Development and the draft State Budget of the USSR for 1984.

Leaders in Attendence

LD280752 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0730 GMT 28 Dec 83

[Excerpts] Half an hour ago in the Kremlin the 9th session of the USSR Supreme Soviet of the 10th convocation started work.

With continuous standing applause, deputies and guests greeted Comrades Aliyev, Vorotnikov, Gorbachev, Grishin, Gromyko, Kunayev, Romanov, Solomentsev, Tikhonov, Ustinov, Chernenko, Shcherbitskiy, Demichev, Dolgikh, Kuznetsov, Ponomarev, Chebrikov, Shevardnadze, Zimyanin, Kapitonov, Ligachev, Rusakov, and Ryzhkov.

Deputies endorsed the agenda, which includes the following questions: State Plan for Economic and Social Development of the USSR for 1984 and fulfillment of Plan for Economic and Social Development of the USSR in 1983, State Budget of the USSR for 1984 and execution of the budget for 1982 [as heard], and ratification of decrees of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet.

A report is now being delivered on the first question at the session by Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR, Gosplan Chairman Deputy Baybakov.

Andropov Absent

AU280904 Vienna ORF Teletext in German 0850 GMT 28 Dec 83

[Excerpt] Moscow -- Following the 2-day CPSU Central Committee Plenum, the Supreme Soviet -- a body comparable with a Western parliament -- convened today.

The 69-year-old state and party leader, Andropov, is not at the session. Prime Minister Tikhonov is in the chair.

Baybakov Delivers Report

LD280748 Moscow TASS in English 0746 GMT 28 Dec 83

[Text] Moscow December 28 TASS -- "The USSR State Plan of Social and Economic Development for 1984 will promote the acceleration of the pace of development of the country's economy, as well as the solution of a number of major scientific, technological, production and social problems." This has been pointed out by the Deputy Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, Chairman of the USSR State Planning Committee Nikolay Baybakov in the report he made at the session of the USSR Supreme Soviet which opened in the Kremlin today. The deputies are discussing the State Plan of Economic and Social Development of the USSR for 1984 and the implementation of the plan in 1983.

According to the preliminary estimates, this year the national income used for the consumption and accumulation will amount to 482,000 million roubles -- 3.1 percent up against the previous year, Nikolay Baybakov said.

Speaking about the plan for 1984, N. Baybakov underlined that the whole of the increment of the national income amounting to 14,900 million roubles was channelled to improving the living standards of the people.

The plan devotes much attention to the fuel and energy complex. Thus, the extraction of oil and gas condensate will reach 624 million tons -- 7.7 million tons more than in the current year.

The volume of gross agricultural output is set at 140,400 million roubles.

The state plan envisages a wide range of measures to further improve the living standards of the Soviet people.

Nikolay Baybakov pointed out that Soviet economy was developing in conditions of a tense international situation formed as a result of the intrigues of imperialist circles, primarily the U.S. and its NATO allies. The Soviet state counters the aggressive policy of the incumbent U.S. Administration with a firm policy aimed at ensuring durable peace and security, N. Baybakov stressed.

Garbuzov Reports on Budget

LD280947 Moscow TASS in English 0942 GMT 28 Dec 83

[Text] Moscow December 28 TASS -- The State Budget of the USSR has been fulfilled in the current year, just as in previous years, with a surplus. The earnings of workers, farmers, and employees have been raised on the basis of the growth of the national income while the prices of basic commodities have remained stable and transport fares and housing rents have not changed, Deputy Vasiliy Garbuzov, minister of finance of the USSR, said in his report at the session of the USSR Supreme Soviet today.

He submitted for the consideration of the session the draft State Budget of the USSR for 1984. The budget envisions a revenue of 365.9 billion roubles and an expenditure of 365.7 billion roubles.

The guidelines of Soviet financial policy reflect the course of the Communist Party for further intensifying the economic development of the country, the finance minister said. The funds for industrial modernization will grow by 4.4 percent to reach 67 billion roubles. Altogether 207.9 billion roubles are set aside from the budget for the development of the Soviet economy. Together with industry's own funds and bank credits, the total sum will be 368.4 billion roubles, which is a 12.3 billion rouble rise on this year.

The real incomes in per capita terms will grow by 3.5 per cent, the finance minister said. About 10 million people will improve their housing conditions. Appropriations for education, science, public health, social security and other social and cultural activities will amount to 118.1 billion roubles, or 32.3 per cent of the expenditures under the state budget.

The defence spending is fixed at 17.054 billion roubles.

Touching upon the extension of the Soviet Union's external economic relations, the finance minister said:

"It is envisaged to continue the Soviet Union's mutually beneficial economic cooperation with developing countries. Our state proceeds from the assumption that there is every objective condition for the growth of businesslike cooperation in trade and other fields with developed capitalist countries. The past few years have shown that the discriminatory actions of the United States of America do not bring dividends to the initiators of all sorts of 'sanctions' and eventually boomerang. We call upon the USA and other capitalist countries to trade and to develop economic relations in every way on the basis of equality and mutual benefit and without any discrimination or restrictions."

CPSU CENTRAL COMMITTEE PLENUM DECISION

PM272046 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 28 Dec 83 Second Edition p 1

["Resolution of the CPSU Central Committee Plenum on the Draft State Plan for the Economic and Social Development of the USSR and draft State Budget of the USSR for 1984"]

[Text] Thanks to the selfless work of the Soviet people in implementing the decisions of the 26th party congress, the CPSU Central Committee plenum notes that our country is making confident headway along the road of economic and social progress.

The policy of improving socialist economic management and of raising the level of organization, discipline, businesslike efficiency and responsibility of cadres, which is being consistently pursued in line with the directives of the November 1982 CPSU Central Committee Plenum, is yielding positive results. The rates of economic development have risen. Qualitative indicators have improved somewhat. Production of industrial and agricultural items has increased. Railway transport has begun to function more steadily. The real income of the population has risen.

At the same time, there are still bottlenecks and significant shortcomings in many sectors of the national economy. A large amount of work remains to be done in order to eliminate them. It is important to maintain the pace that has been set and the general mood of practically tackling tasks, to steadily raise the level of party and state leadership of the economy and to develop more actively the positive tendencies of growth in efficiency, making them more stable in nature.

The CPSU Central Committee plenum has decided the following:

1. To approve totally and entirely the activities of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo for implementing the domestic and foreign policies devised by the 26th party congress and the November 1982 and June 1983 CPSU Central Committee plenums.

The CPSU Central Committee plenum unanimously approves and supports the in-depth assessments and conclusions on the main directions for further developing the national economic as contained in the speech by Comrade Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and regards this speech as a very important political document, vividly expressing the socioeconomic policies of the party and soviet state at the present stage.

The plenum considers that the tackling of the urgent, current and long-term economic tasks put forward by Comrade Andropov should be the basis of activity for the entire party, for all soviet and economic bodies, and for public organizations and labor collectives. This should be a very important obligation for every communist.

2. To approve in the main the draft State Plan for the Economic and Social Development of the USSR and the draft State Budget of the USSR for 1984. The draft plan and draft budget correspond with the party's economic strategy and map out the further dynamic development and raising of the efficiency of social production and the growth of the well-being of the people; they provide for everything necessary to maintain the country's defense capability at the proper level; the USSR Council of Ministers shall submit the drafts referred to for examination by the USSR Supreme Soviet.

3. To have the Central Committees of the union republics, the kray committees, oblast committees, okrug committees, city committees, and rayon committees of the party; the primary party organizations; the ministries and departments, the soviet, economic, trade union, and Komsomol organs develop on a wide scale organizational and mass-political work in the mobilization of the work collectives and of all the working people for the fulfillment and over-fulfillment of the plan tasks of 1984. They are to ensure further growth of the efficiency of the economy and to place the main emphasis on raising the level of economic management, speeding up scientific and technical progress, and using more fully production potential and all material, labor, and financial resources; to seek out additional reserves persistently; to achieve above-plan growth in labor productivity and reduction of prime cost of output; to increase profit; to improve product quality; and to observe strictly contractual obligations.

Priority must be given to intensifying the effort to make economies. Ministries and departments, every enterprise, construction site, and farm should develop and implement concrete measures for reducing labor costs, expenditure of raw and other materials, and of fuel and energy resources.

An important task is the implementation of the USSR Energy Program.

Taking into consideration the growing volume of capital construction, particular attention should be paid to improving the organization of construction work, concentrating forces and resources at precommissioning projects, and to ensuring that new production capacities are put into operation and assimilated in the shortest possible time.

Workers in the agro-industrial complex should constantly increase their efforts to implement the USSR Food Program and increase the yield of fields and the productivity of livestock farming. The resources being channeled toward the development of agriculture should be utilized with greater efficiency.

On the basis of the further development of the economy and the achievement of high technical-economic indexes, the realization of the social program for the 11th 5-Year Plan period should be continued consistently.

Persistent efforts should be made to increase the output, improve the quality, and extend the range of consumer goods; and to develop the network of consumer service enterprises and improve their work.

The implementation of set tasks in the development of health care, education, and culture, and in the handing over of housing, pre-school establishments, schools, hospitals, and professional-technical schools should be ensured.

It should be considered necessary to give all these questions due prominence at the forthcoming report and election party conferences in krays and oblasts, and in all the work connected with preparations for the USSR Supreme Soviet elections.

4. The CPSU Central Committee plenum stresses that in solving current tasks attention to the strategic problems of developing the national economy should not be allowed to wane. It is necessary to actively improve the system of planning and management of the economy, and the style and methods of socialist management. Party, soviet, and economic bodies must do everything necessary for the successful implementation of the economic experiment being conducted in a number of sectors for extending the rights and increasing the independence and accountability of associations and enterprises with regard to the results of work.

With a view to more efficient utilization of the created production capacities, it should be considered expedient that the USSR State Planning Committee, ministries and departments, the Councils of Ministers of the union republics develop special measures aimed at eliminating intersectorial and intrasectorial and determine clearly the ways and means for their implementation.

Still more scope must be given to the work of introducing exemplary order and organization in production at all sectors of economic and cultural construction, and there must be an active struggle to strengthen state, plan, and labor discipline.

5. The CPSU Central Committee calls upon workers, kolkhoz farmers, engineering and technical workers, intelligentsia, all working people of our country, to mount a broad socialist competition for fulfillment and overfulfillment of the 1984 plan and tasks of the 5-year plan period as a whole, in achieving high production results.

In conditions of an international situation that has sharply deteriorated through the fault of imperialist circles, strict fulfillment of the plan tasks, conscientious, high-productivity labor is not only the obligation but the patriotic duty of each working collective and each Soviet person.

The CPSU Central Committee plenum expresses the firm conviction that Soviet people, closely rallying around the Leninist Party, will tirelessly strengthen the economic and defense might of our homeland, will give all their strength for the achievement of fresh successes in communist construction.

CPSU CENTRAL AUDITING COMMISSION MEETING

LD271328 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1252 GMT 27 Dec 83

[Text] Moscow, 27 Dec (TASS) -- A meeting of the CPSU Central Auditing Commission took place here today.

A report on the activities of the CPSU Central Auditing Commission was delivered by its chairman, Gennadiy Sizov. He noted that the CPSU Central Auditing Commission, together with all the party and people, has worked actively for practical implementation of the tasks set by the 26th CPSU Congress, the November 1982 and June 1983 Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee and the instructions of Yuriy Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

Checks have been made on the production, financial and economic activities of the PRAVDA Publishing House, on the state of affairs in capital construction carried out by the CPSU Central Committee Administration of Affairs, and others. The checking helps to strengthen party discipline and to eliminate shortcomings in the expenditure of party funds.

An important place in the work of the CPSU Central Auditing Commission was allocated to giving assistance to the work of the auditing committees of local party organizations.

The CPSU Central Auditing Commission continued to exchange experiences with the auditing commissions of fraternal communist and workers parties.

The session considered and confirmed the plan for the work of the CPSU Central Auditing Commission for 1984.

ANDROPOV SIGNS ELECTORAL COMMISSION DECISION

LD222154 Moscow in Serbo-Croatian to Yugoslavia 2000 GMT 22 Dec 83

[Excerpt] The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium has determined the composition of the Central Electoral Commission in connection with the elections to the supreme organ of state power in our country. The elections will be held on 4 March next year. The decision, which was signed by Yuriy Andropov, chairman of the Supreme Soviet Presidium, cites the names of the 29 people making up the commission.

Commission Members Listed

LD222237 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1800 GMT 22 Dec 83

[From the Vremya newscast]

[Text] The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, on the basis of Articles 25 and 26 of the Law of the USSR on Elections to the USSR Supreme Soviet, has decreed that the Central Electoral Commission for elections to the USSR Supreme Soviet of the 11th convocation be confirmed, comprising the following representatives of public organizations and labor collectives:

Chairman of the Central Electoral Commission, Georgiy Mokeyevich Markov, writer, first secretary of the USSR Union of Writers Board from the USSR Union of Writers;

Deputy chairman of the commission, Aleksandra Pavlovna Biryukova, secretary of the AUCCTU, from the USSR Trade Unions;

Secretary of the commission, Yegor Kuzmich Ligachev, chief of the CPSU Central Committee Organizational Party Work Department, from the trade union of cultural workers.

The Central Electoral Commission includes Comrades Akmatov, Bagirov, Basov, (Brevnov), (Volkova), Gazibekov, (Darienko), Dementyeva, Dzhanibekov, Yepishev, (Zheltov), Kletskov, (Usmauskas), (Loshakova), Makarov, Mishin, (Mgrchyan), Mosashvili, (Muradova), Piemenov, (Rikhin), (Rupmane), (Rustamova), Solovyev, Titarenko, (Shukhurbekov).

CPSU RESOLUTION ON PARTY WORK STYLE PROMOTED

PM230954 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 22 Dec 83 First Edition p 1

[Editorial: "Improving the Work Style"]

[Text] Our party sees the all-around improvement of the work style in every sector as the most important guarantee of accelerated progress. Great mobilizing significance is attached to the CPSU Central Committee resolution adopted the other day on improving the style and methods of the activity of party organizations in light of the CPSU Central Committee November (1982) Plenum decisions.

It is noted that the republic's party committees have begun to display a more creative, questing approach and greater efficiency and purposefulness in the leadership of the national economy and the education of the working people. This has promoted the growth of people's labor and political activeness and made it possible to ensure the overfulfillment of industrial production plans and to harvest the crop in an organized fashion.

At the same time the CPSU Central Committee concluded that there has not yet been a radical improvement in the style of the activity of the Moldavian Communist Party Central Committee and the republic's party organizations. Many party committees operate on the basis of inertia and are still inclined toward bureaucratic [bumazhnyye] methods of leadership. The forces of the elected aktiv and the party apparatus are sometimes squandered on elaborating stereotyped plans and declarative decisions whose fulfillment is not guaranteed. No effective measures have been adopted to establish a genuinely businesslike, party style in the activity of the republic Council of Ministers and ministries and departments. The number of written instructions and orders emanating from them and conferences and sessions has not been reduced recently, but has actually increased.

The party committees do not analyze in depth the processes taking place in the economy or ensure the comprehensive resolution of questions of the intensification of social production. As a result, at a number of industrial enterprises, in agriculture, and in construction, targets for increasing labor productivity and plans for new technology systematically remain unfulfilled, and the struggle for savings and thrift has not assumed the necessary scope. A considerable debt to the state has arisen in purchases of the main types of agricultural produce. Due concern is not displayed for the fuller satisfaction of the working people's needs and requirements.

The main point of the CPSU Central Committee resolution, which applies to all party committees, is to be more persistent in improving the style and methods of organizational and political work to fulfill the decisions of the 26th party congress and subsequent CPSU Central Committee plenums and increase the effectiveness of party leadership of public life. It is necessary to develop and establish a creative, scientific approach to the resolution of the problems which arise, genuinely Leninist efficiency, party principles, a self-critical approach, personal responsibility, and the ability to rely on the masses' intelligence and experience, influence their mood actively, and react sensitively to their needs. It is an important task to further step up work to strengthen state, plan, and labor discipline, order, and organization.

The tasks of further improving economic planning and management and improving the style and methods of economic activity make many demands. The efforts and attention of party, soviet, and economic organs and labor collectives must be constantly focused on the main avenues of intensification of social production: improving labor productivity and output quality on the basis of the acceleration of scientific and technical progress; speedily assimilating and fully utilizing production capacities; consistently implementing the principles of autonomous financing and the policy of thrift; and introducing the collective contract and other progressive forms of organization and management of production. These questions should be regarded as paramount in analyzing the state of the economy, elaborating pledges, and summing up the results of competition, and in the implementation by primary party organizations of the monitoring of the administration's activity.

An urgent requirement for party committees is that they fully overcome the practice of doing other people's work and duplicating the work of soviet and economic organs, and that they take more care to develop those organs' own initiative and responsibility. It is necessary more resolutely to eradicate manifestation of local or departmental narrowmindedness, bureaucracy, and red tape. Life dictates the need to improve the management of agriculture and other sectors of the agro-industrial complex in accordance with the CPSU Central Committee May (1982) Plenum.

The work style of party, soviet, trade union, and economic organs must be permeated by day-to-day concern for improving the working people's living conditions. This means unflagging party monitoring of the construction and allocation of housing and the state of trade and consumer, medical, and cultural services to the population. Citizens' letters, requests, and proposals require greater attention.

Party organizations must consistently implement the instructions of the CPSU Central Committee June (1983) Plenum on improving ideological work and stepping up its influence on the masses and on the course of economic and social development. It is an urgent requirement of the day to ensure a resolute turnabout in ideological education activity toward real, practical tasks and to ensure close unity with economic and organizational work. It is important to constantly enrich the content as well as the forms and methods of people's education.

The whole style of the party organizations' work must reliably guarantee strict observance of the Leninist norms of party work and the further development of intraparty democracy. To this end it is necessary to make better use of criticism and self-criticism and to everything to strengthen the collective principle in work, taking care that it is implemented not merely formally, but in substance.

Particular significance is attached to systematic, effective monitoring of the fulfillment of party and government directives and the decisions adopted. It is necessary constantly to remember that in leadership the main thing is not the holding of sessions and the adoption of numerous decisions, but the ability to organize things in practice. Work with cadres must today be oriented first and foremost toward increasing executive discipline and responsibility to the party and people for the sector entrusted to you.

Establishing the Leninist leadership style is the most important prerequisite for the successful implementation of the party's economic and social policy and communist education. That is how the CPSU Central Committee sees it. And it is from this angle that the practice of work at the current report and election party conferences and in all committees should be regarded.

VOROTNIKOV ATTENDS RSFSR COUNCIL SESSION

LD192334 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1800 GMT 19 Dec 83

[From the Vremya newscast]

[Text] The RSFSR Council of Ministers has examined drafts of the State Plan for Economic and Social Development and of the State Budget of the republic of 1984 as well as the RSFSR Gosplan's proposals concerning the draft of the main directions of economic and social development of the USSR for the 1986-1990 period and for the period up to the year 2000 in the areas of the economy subordinate to the RSFSR Council of Ministers. RSFSR ministries and departments, Councils of Ministers of the autonomous republics, ispolkoms of the soviet of people's deputies have been given relevant instructions, according to the draft plans and in light of CPSU Central Committee directives concerning this question.

Comrade Vorotnikov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the RSFSR Council of Ministers, addressed the conference.

SHCHERBITSKIY ADDRESSES KIEV PARTY CONFERENCE

AU191055 Kiev Domestic Service in Ukrainian 0500 GMT 18 Dec 83

[Text] The Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee recently held a conference with obkom and Kiev Gorkom Organizational Party Work Department chiefs to discuss problems connected with the completion of the report and election campaign in basic, rayon and city party organizations, and with preparations for oblast party conferences.

The conference was addressed by Vladimir Vasilyevich Shcherbitskiy, CPSU Central Committee Politburo member and Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee first secretary. It was noted that the reports and elections had manifested the close cohesion of party ranks, the unanimous approval of our party and state's domestic and foreign policy, of the November 1982 and the June 1983 CPSU Central Committee Plenum decisions, and of the multifaceted activity of the CPSU Central Committee and its Politburo, headed by Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov, by the communists. The high activity of communists, their greater engagement in the discussions on the activity of elected bodies, and the stricter, self-critical assessment of what has been done are the characteristic features of the present report and election campaign.

Comrade Shcherbitskiy emphasized that oblast party conferences were called upon to analyze in detail the organizational and political work carried out to implement the decisions adopted by the 26th party congress and the successive CPSU Central Committee plenums, to determine the ways of raising the effectiveness of party leadership in economic and cultural construction. In preparations for the conferences and in the further activity, the main attention should be paid to the intensification of party influence on economic development, to the consolidation of positive trends in it, to the raising of labor productivity, to the consistent pursuit of the policy of economy, to the enhancement of discipline, good organization, and order. It is imperative to clearly determine the ways and means of compensating for the arrears incurred in a number of fields, and of meeting the targets set by the 5-year plan.

The conference devoted a lot of attention to questions concerning further improvements in the work of the republic's party committee in line with the CPSU Central Committee decision on the work performed by the Moldavian Communist Party Central Committee to improve the style and methods of party organization activity in the light of the November 1982 CPSU Central Committee Plenum decisions. Organizational party work departments play a big role in the practical compliance with these requirements.

Comrade Titarenko, Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Politburo member and second secretary, touched upon some questions concerning work among cadres, their increased responsibility for the matter at hand, the strengthened control of implementation, and improvements in the work on letters and applications from the working people.

The report by Comrade Kryuchkov, chief of the Organizational Party Work Department of the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee, specified practical measures that should be taken by party committees in connection with the completion of the report and election meetings and conferences.

The conference called attention to the need to carefully analyze the results of the reports and elections in each party organization and party committee, to draw correct conclusions, and to immediately organize the implementation of the adopted decisions, as well as of the critical remarks and proposals made by the communists. The functionaries of party, administrative, and economic bodies, who participated in the party meetings and conferences, must efficiently assist in this work.

SHEVARDNADZE ATTENDS GEORGIAN CP BUREAU SESSION

PM231426 [Editorial Report] Tbilisi ZARYA VOSTOKA in Russian on 16 December frontpages 1,500-word GRUZINFORM report entitled "A Shock Pace for the End of the Year."
The report covers an enlarged session of the Georgian Communist Party Central Committee Bureau, date and place not specified, which begins as follows:

"The republic's national economy, which has entered the final phase of the third year of the 5-year plan, has coped successfully on the whole with the intensive plans for the first 11 months. The mobilization of the efforts of communists and all working people in Georgia for the unconditional fulfillment of plans and pledges has enabled a number of sectors to outstrip the labor calendar by a considerable amount.

"Such was the assessment of an enlarged session of the Georgian Communist Party Central Committee Bureau which examined the results of the fulfillment of the State Plan for the Georgian SSR's Economic and Social Development for January-November 1983."

After listing a number of speakers, the report notes that the "results of the Georgian Communist Party Central Committee Bureau's enlarged session were summarized by E.A. Shevardnadze, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Georgian Communist Party Central Committee."

SHEVARDNADZE ATTENDS MEMORIAL MEETING IN TBILISI

LD211548 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1400 GMT 21 Dec 83

[Excerpts] A festive meeting devoted to the 110th birth anniversary of Shalva Eliava, ardent fighter of the Leninist Guard and glorious son of the Georgian people, has been held in Tbilisi.

Comrade Shevardnadze, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Georgian Communist Party Central Committee, took part in the work of the meeting.

DOLGIKH, ARKHIPOV ATTEND MOSCOW SOIREE 21 DEC

LD212132 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1730 GMT 21 Dec 83

[Text] A solemn soiree devoted to Power Engineering Workers Day took place in Moscow today. In the presidium were Comrade Dolgikh, candidate member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; Comrade Arkhipov, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; Comrade Frolov, chief of a CPSU Central Committee department; heads of ministries and departments; leading workers in production; scientists; and representatives of the public of the capital.

Comrade Neporozhniy, minister of power and electrification, delivered a report. He spoke in particular about ways to solve the tasks set before workers of the industry by CPSU Central Committee plenums, and about reserves being brought into operation at power engineering enterprises and construction sites.

UZBEK SUPREME SOVIET MEETS, ELECTS CHAIRMAN

GF201627 Tashkent Domestic Service in Uzbek 1300 GMT 20 Dec 83

[Text] The 8th session of the 10th convocation of the Uzbek SSR Supreme Soviet was held in Tashkent today. The session of the Supreme Soviet began at 1100. Inamdzhan Usmankhodzhayev, first secretary of the Uzbek Communist Party Central Committee; Aytmuratov; Anisimkin, Maksimov, Mikhaylov, Musakhanov, Osetrov, Salimov, Makhmudova, and Umaryov, members and candidate members of the Uzbek Communist Party Central Committee Bureau and members of the republic's Supreme Soviet and government, participated in the session.

The meeting was opened by Deputy (Salimyatov), deputy chairman of the Uzbek Supreme Soviet Presidium. The speaker noted that Sharaf Rashidov, renowned figurehead of the Communist Party and the Soviet state and leading organizer of the Uzbek Party and state structure, had passed away since the Uzbek SSR Supreme Soviet's 7th session. Also dead were Khodzhayev, Akhundova, and [name indistinct] -- members of the Uzbek SSR Supreme Soviet. The participants of the meeting observed 1 minute of silence in memory of the deputies who had passed away.

In accordance with the proposal made by Deputy (Akakudiyev), who addressed the meeting in accordance with the summons of the Council of Elders, the Supreme Soviet relieved Deputy Yusupov from his post as member of the Uzbek SSR Supreme Soviet Permanent Commission for Popular Education and unanimously elected him as chairman of the Uzbek Supreme Soviet.

In accordance with the proposal made by Deputy Sadykov, who addressed the meeting at the summons of the Council of Elders, Deputy (Isakhov) was unanimously elected as deputy chairman of the Uzbek SSR Supreme Soviet.

After hearing a report drawn up by the Credentials Commission, which was ready by (Akushkin), deputy chairman of the Credentials Commission, the Supreme Soviet took a resolution converting the candidate memberships of Deputy (Tabibov), from the Tashkent Electoral Okrug No 114, (Otchetrov), from the [word indistinct] Electoral Okrug No 240; Deputy Ibragimov, from the Lenin Electoral Okrug No 252; and Karimov, from the popular Electoral Okrug No 473, into full membership in the Supreme Soviet. The structure of the Supreme Soviet was unanimously approved.

The Supreme Soviet adopted a decision at the proposal of Osetrov, second secretary of the Uzbek Communist Party Central Committee, to relieve Inamdzhan Usmankhodzhayev from his post as chairman of the Uzbek SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium due to his election as first secretary of the Uzbek Communist Party Central Committee.

Inamdzhan Usmankhodzhayev addressed the session. On behalf of the Uzbek Communist Party Central Committee Bureau, the Uzbek SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and the Council of Elders, he proposed the election of Deputy Akil Salimov as chairman of the Uzbek SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. The Supreme Soviet unanimously elected Deputy Salimov as chairman of the Uzbek SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

Akil Salimov, deputy and chairman of the Uzbek SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, expressed deep gratitude for the high confidence offered to him. He promised to do everything he can to justify this confidence.

At the proposal of Deputy Salimov, the Supreme Soviet unanimously decided to elect Deputy Inamdzhan Usmankhodzhayev, first secretary of the Uzbek Communist Party Central Committee, as member of the Uzbek SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. A decision was also made to elect Deputy Babanazarov as member of the Uzbek SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

Deputy Leonid Grekov, chairman of t[illegible] Planning and Budget Commission, was relieved of his post as due to taking up new duties and moving from the republic. The session relieved Deputy Khusnutdinov from his post as member of the Trade and Public Dining Commission of the Uzbek SSR Supreme Soviet and elected him as chairman of the Planning and Budget Commission of the Uzbek SSR Supreme Soviet. After being elected as chairman of the Uzbek SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, Deputy Salimov was relieved of his post as chairman of the Uzbek SSR Supreme Soviet Foreign Affairs Commission.

Deputy Gavkhar Khaydarova, secretary of the Uzbek SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, read a report on the approval of the edicts of the Uzbek SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. The Supreme Soviet unanimously approved the edicts which were submitted to discussion. It also approved various laws and decisions. With this, the eighth session of the Uzbek SSR Supreme Soviet concluded its work.

Further Details

GF210846 Tashkent International Service in Uzbek 1700 GMT 21 Dec 83

[Text] The 8th session of the 10th convocation of the Uzbek Supreme Soviet was held in Tashkent, the capital of Uzbek SSR, on 20 December. The session discussed matters related to organization. The deputies elected Deputy Erkin Yusupov, renowned Uzbek scholar and doctor of philosophical sciences and vice president of the Uzbek Academy of Sciences, as chairman of the Uzbek Supreme Soviet, a post which was held by Asadillah Khodzhayev but which was vacated when he passed away during the period between the last and the current session.

Deputy Munavvar Isakova, milkmaid of the Uzbek 50th Anniversary Kolkhoz in Tashkent Oblast, was elected as deputy chairman of the Uzbek Supreme Soviet.

Due to his election as first secretary of the Uzbek Communist Party Central Committee, the session relieved Inamdzhan Usmankhodzhayev of his post as chairman of the Uzbek Supreme Soviet Presidium. In accordance with a proposal made by Deputy Inamdzhan Uzmankhodzhayev, Deputy Akil Salimov was elected as chairman of the Uzbek Supreme Soviet Presidium.

Deputy Akil Salimov was born in Tashkent city in 1928. He is a member of the CPSU and a doctor of technical sciences. He graduated from Tashkent Polytechnic. He lectured at that school and also served as its (?director for some time). In 1965 he was channeled to party work. He served as deputy chief of the Uzbek Communist Party Central Committee Science and Education Institutions Department. Later, he became the chief of the Science and Education Institutions Department. Since 1970, Akil Salimov served as secretary of the Uzbek Communist Party Central Committee. He was elected as deputy to the 7th, 8th, 9th, and the current 10th convocations of the Uzbek Supreme Soviet.

The eighth session of the Uzbek Supreme Soviet elected Deputy Inamdzhan Uzmankhodzhayev first secretary of the Uzbek Communist Party Central Committee, as member of the Uzbek Supreme Soviet Presidium. The session decided to call the convocation of the ninth session of the Uzbek Supreme Soviet on 10 January 1984. The session will discuss the Uzbek social and economic development plan for 1984 and other issues.

DENISENKO APPOINTED NEW LATVIAN DEPUTY PREMIER

PM231157 [Editorial Report] Riga SOVETSKAYA LATVIYA in Russian on 13 December carries on page 1 the text of four decrees issued by the Latvian SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, signed by Presidium Chairman P. Strautmanis and Presidium Secretary K. Zorin, appointing Nina Vladimirovna Denisenko deputy chairman of the Latvian SSR Council of Ministers; relieving Erik Karlovich Peterson from his duties as deputy chairman of the Latvian SSR Council of Ministers "in connection with his transfer to other work"; appointing Erik Karlovich Peterson chairman of the Latvian SSR State Committee for Construction Affairs; and relieving Yanis Feliksovich Rubins from his duties as chairman of the Latvian SSR State Committee for Construction Affairs "in connection with his transfer to other work."

NATURAL GAS PRODUCTION INCREASING RAPIDLY

LD242245 Moscow TASS in English 2157 GMT 24 Dec 83

[Text] Moscow December 24 TASS -- TASS economic news analyst Vladimir Filinovskiy writes:

In the production of fuel and energy resources in the USSR the main emphasis is now laid upon a sharp increase in the production of natural gas. It must be recalled that previously it was oil that was given priority.

The new tendency has been prompted by several reasons. The point is, first of all, that the natural gas reserves in the USSR are quite considerable. Besides, gas has important advantages over other sources of energy. Thus, one gas pipeline with a diameter of 1,420 mm can supply more energy to consumers within a year than 700,000 carloads of coal.

The construction of high-capacity gas pipelines is under way in the Soviet Union. A powerful scientific and technical basis has been created. It makes it possible to manufacture the entire complex of the necessary equipment: earth-moving machinery, heavy-duty pipelayers, and high-powered automatic welding outfits. Due to this the USSR is now in the lead by the rate of construction of gas trunklines and their overall length which is more than 140,000 kilometres already.

The production of gas in the country grows rapidly. In the past thirteen years it has grown two and a half times over. Approximately 630,000 million cubic metres of gas are to be produced in 1985.

The new tendency in the production of energy resources does not at all mean the slackening of attention to other types of fuel, oil, for example. In oil production the Soviet Union still ranks the first in the world. Oil production continues to grow but not at such a rapid pace as it used to. In previous years oil production grew by 15-20 million tons a year on an average (together with gas condensate) whereas now such an increment is planned for the entire current five-year period. However, this is quite enough to satisfy the Soviet Union's rapidly growing requirements for fuel.

One cannot but take into account the sharply increased cost of the production of oil. Previously it was produced in the well populated European part of the Soviet Union whereas now oil reserves there run out and oil production is being transferred to beyond the Urals, to Siberia. The cost of prospecting for, production and transportation of oil has sharply grown. This is why endeavours are being made in the USSR to replace oil by natural gas wherever possible. Special technologies have been developed to make it possible to utilise it better and more economically. Due to this the specific consumption of fuel for the generation of electric power in the USSR is now lower than, say, in the USA, the FRG, and Britain, and slightly higher than in France and Japan.

The USSR is now perhaps the world's only state whose economic development can fully base itself on its own energy resources.

CSA ANNOUNCES AGRICULTURAL PLEDGES FULFILLED

PM231243 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 23 Dec 83 First Edition p 1

[Unattributed report under the rubric "Completing the Labor Year" "Pledges Fulfilled. Announcement by the USSR Central Statistical Administration"]

[Text] Implementing the decisions of the 26th party congress and the Food Program, the Lithuanian SSR's agricultural workers have fulfilled the socialist pledges for the sale of livestock products to the state.

The procurement stations and processing enterprises have received 572,000 metric tons of livestock and poultry, 2,248,000 metric tons of milk, and 570 million eggs.

The sale of livestock products to the state continues.

Implementing the decisions of the 26th party congress, the subsequent CPSU Central Committee plenums, and the targets of the Food Program, the agricultural workers of the Mari and Chuvash ASSR's and Ryazan Oblast have fulfilled the plans and socialist pledges for the sale of livestock products to the state ahead of schedule.

Ryazan Oblast farms have delivered 109,000 metric tons of livestock and poultry, 640,000 metric tons of milk, 249 million eggs, and 570 metric tons of wool to procurement stations and processing enterprises.

Purchases in the Chuvash ASSR amount to 86,000 metric tons of livestock and poultry, 279,000 metric tons of milk, 205 million eggs, and 380 metric tons of wool.

Mari ASSR farms have sold 59,000 metric tons of livestock and poultry, 190,000 metric tons of milk, 191 million eggs, and 146 metric tons of wool to the state.

The sale of livestock products to the state continues.

Implementing the decisions of the 26th party congres[illegible] CPSU Central Committee plenums and the targets of the Food Program, workers on stockraising units in Lvov, Zhitomir, and Ivano-Frankovsk Oblasts have fulfilled the annual plans and socialist pledges for the sale of all types of livestock products to the state ahead of schedule.

The procurement centers and processing enterprises have received 126,000 metric tons of livestock and poultry, 519,000 metric tons of milk, 310 million eggs, and 70 tons of wool from Lvov Oblast farms.

Purchases in Zhitomir Oblast amount to 116,000 metric tons of livestock and poultry, 502,000 metric tons of milk, 127 million eggs, and 232 tons of wool.

Farms in Ivano-Frankovsk Oblast have delivered 71,000 metric tons of livestock and poultry, 215,000 metric tons of milk, 92 million eggs, and 54 tons of wool into state reserves.

The sale of livestock products continues.

DIFFICULT FARMING YEAR, ACHIEVEMENTS REVIEWED

LD240231 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1400 GMT 23 Dec 83

[From the Vremya newscast; commentary by IZVESTIYA observer Anatoliy Ivashchenko in the studio]

[Text] Good day, comrades. The concerns of farmers do not finish at the end of the year whether it was a bumper year, an average year, or a difficult year. One of these concerns is to analyze the results of what has been done, to take stock of everything that was good and to recall the mistakes that were made. So what was the outgoing year of 1983 like? Was it difficult? Yes, it was difficult again. These words: a bad autumn, late rains, early cold weather, resowing in spring, and summer drought, are no longer stressed. But there is no getting away from them. All these things occurred once again. In the Kazakh virgin lands, the last 100,000 hectares of grain were literally snatched from the bad weather. The Siberian farmers harvested their last areas with frost already on the ground.

For fodder crops, the year was much better. With rare exceptions, more forage was procured than before. This made it possible to considerably improve the situation of livestock farms in the Baltic republics and Belorussia, for example, and in other oblasts, krays, and republics. Gratifying changes for the better have at last been achieved in the vast region of the Russian Non-Chernozem Zone. Neither should one fail to mention the following fact: Thanks to increased output and increased productivity of cattle, the meat and dairy industry, which has been much criticized -- and rightly so, of course -- fulfilled the plan for the first time in 7 years.

The closer cooperation among partners in the agro-industrial complex and the restructuring of agricultural administration are already producing their first results in the implementation of the food program. We did not obtain as much grain as intended. But it is expected that the overall total of arable and animal husbandry produce obtained by 31 December will be greater than that obtained in the fruitful year of 1978, when the country harvested its record total of 237 million tons of grain.

Unfortunately, when they hear that the grain production plan was not completely fulfilled, many people draw the conclusion that there will be less bread. That is not so. Only slightly over 40 million tons of wheat, rye, rice, and items made from them are needed to supply the people's table each year. The rest of the harvest is used for other purposes. An especially large amount of it is earmarked for cattle fodder. In this respect, one must admit that we have been too wasteful up to now. Nowhere else in the world does compound feed contain so much grain as in our country. Quite often, up to 400 grams of concentrates are used to produce a liter of milk. This gives one the impression that the employees of the compound feed industry, livestock specialists, and economists have forgotten that the cow is a herbivorous animal. It needs hay and haylage made of alfalfa, clover, and meadow grass of various kinds. At the present, of course, the main task is to make rational use of available fodder. As much attention should be given to boosting meat and milk production as is given to arable farming in the summer, since the winter harvest, as it were, is now in progress on the livestock farms.

But in future, it is necessary to structure fodder resources more sensibly in order not to keep three cows where there is only enough for two or even one. Since animal husbandry has been declared to be a key front, everything there must be carefully calculated, as if at a front. If this is done, the front will be victorious.

TASS REPORTS 21 DEC LAUNCH OF MOLNIYA-3

LD211636 Moscow TASS in English 1625 GMT 21 Dec 83

[Text] Moscow December 21 TASS -- The Soviet Union today launched another satellite in the "Molniya" series to ensure the operation of a long-range telephone-and-telegraph radio communications system and the transmission of USSR Central Television's programs to points covered by the "Orbita" network, and to further international cooperation.

"Molniya-3" was inserted into an orbiting path with an apogee of 40,635 kilometres in the northern hemisphere and a perigee of 645 kilometres in the southern hemisphere. The satellite's period of revolution is 12 hours 16 minutes. The inclination of the orbit is 62.8 degrees.

Communications sessions with "Molniya-3" will be conducted as planned.

COSMOS-1516 SATELLITE LAUNCHED 27 DECEMBER

LD271422 Moscow TASS in English 1410 GMT 27 Dec 83

[Text] Moscow December 27 TASS -- A new artifical earth satellite "Cosmos-1516" was launched in the Soviet Union today.

It has on board scientific apparatus for the further exploration of outer space.

The satellite's initial period of revolution is 89.2 minutes, maximum distance from the earth 299 km, minimum distance -- 205 km, the orbit's inclination -- 65 degrees.

The apparatus aboard the satellite is functioning normally.

COSMOS-1517 LAUNCHED, SPLASHES DOWN IN BLACK SEA

LD271404 Moscow TASS in English 1358 GMT 27 Dec 83

[Text] Moscow December 27 TASS -- Artificial earth satellite "Cosmos-1517", the next in the series, has been launched in the Soviet Union today.

After fulfilling the flight programme the "Cosmos-1517" satellite performed controlled descent in the atmosphere and splashed down in the preset area on the Black Sea.

The scientific research envisaged by the programme has been fulfilled.

MORE ON 21 DEC MOSCOW MILITARY DISTRICT MEETING

PM2315C9 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 22 Dec 83 Second Edition p 2

[Lieutenant Colonel G. Barnev and Lieutenant Colonel V. Zhitarenko report under the rubric "Party Conferences": "By the Gauge of Combat Readiness"]

[Text] To work even more persistently, with total effort, in each sector of military labor and to enhance vigilance, combat readiness, organization, and discipline -- this is the response by the communists and all soldiers of the Order of Lenin Moscow Military District to the sharp exacerbation of the military-political situation in the world, for which the present U.S. Administration and its accomplices are to blame. The district's soldiers unanimously approve the CPSU's domestic and foreign policy and are profoundly aware of their tasks stemming from Comrade Yu.V. Andropov's statement in connection with the siting of U.S. first-strike missiles in West Europe.

Such was the atmosphere that characterized the work of the district party conference. The reports by Colonel General I. Repin, member of the Military Council and chief of the district Political Directorate, and Colonel A. Moshchev, secretary of the Political Directorate Party Commission, and the speeches by conference delegates comprehensively analyzed the state of party-political work in formations and units and outlined measures to enhance its influence on the further raising of combat readiness and the quality of combat and political training and on the strengthening of military discipline. Specific examples were cited, and units with frontranking experience were named. What was it that enabled the best formations and units to score high results? The fact that their party organizations are, in the full sense of the word, the political nucleus of troop collectives and active organizers and educators of the soldiers had a substantial impact.

At the same time, as the reports and the speeches by Army General P. Lushev, commander of the district; Guards Major General L. Zolotov, commander of the M.I. Kalinin Taman Guards Motorized Infantry Division; and Guards Lieutenant Colonel Yu. Kilochko, secretary of the Shepetovka Guards Tank Regiment Party Committee, noted, the standard of the work of some political organs and party committees and bureaus in resolving the tasks of combat and political training is still not fully in line with the increased requirements. Individual communists, including at leadership level, tolerate shortcomings in combat training and do not show persistence in eliminating them.

"Today the key element in our entire activity is to improve the methods of leadership and the style of work and to enhance the responsibility of cadres and all communists," Lieutenant General of Aviation I. Dmitriyev, commander of the district Air Force, said from the conference rostrum. "The party orients us toward the effective solution of these questions in each sector and in each collective. And it is our duty to ensure that the necessary changes occur in this respect everywhere."

This speech was well supplemented by Colonel V. Kirchenko. He particularly emphasized that in improving the entire system of party-political work you must not be concerned only about today's tasks, you must also think and act with the long term in mind.

Very correctly said! Other speakers, as it were, developed this thought, focusing attention on the fact that the training of a serviceman -- officer or soldier -- begins long before he joins the unit. In this connection, stress was laid on the need to improve the training process in the district's military schools, to align it more closely with troop practice, and to persistently introduce troop experience into the student's training. It is also necessary, figurately speaking, to charge the future officers with the ideas and aims advanced by the party in the sphere of improving ideological work.

Substantial shortcomings were noted in the work of military commissariats in connection with resolving the tasks of basic military training, the physical tempering of young men, and the training of specialists for the Armed Forces. This, in particular, was mentioned in the speeches by Colonel N. Vorobyev, chief of the Political Section at Ryazan's Higher Military Motor Vehicle Engineering School, and Colonel P. Yefimov, Gorkey Oblast military commissar. Deficiencies at this level today have an immediate impact on combat readiness, and conclusions must be drawn from this by the political organs and party organizations of military commissariats, it was said at the conference.

Combat readiness and the problems of intensifying the study process are directly linked with the state of military discipline in army collectives. It was noted at the conference that this year the overwhelming majority of battalions, companies, and equivalent subunits have lived without incidents. As the speakers emphasized, however, this is no reason for complacency. In some units and subunits questions of strengthening discipline are resolved impulsively, without taking into account the specific situation in a given subunit or the individual characteristics of soldiers. A comprehensive approach is not always ensured in this work, and poor use is made of the large detachment of junior commanders and the experience of Armed Forces veterans.

During the last training year political organs and party organizations did much to implement the CPSU Central Committee June (1983) Plenum decisions.

But, as political worker Guards Lieutenant Colonel A. Cherkasov, Lieutenant Colonel V. Teplov, member of the N [not further identified] unit party committee, Soviet Army employee B. Belov, leader of a team of military construction workers and RSFSR honored construction worker, and other comrades noted in their speeches, there are still many unresolved problems in ideological and political educaton work. The organization of political training classes and classes in the system of economic education for workers and employees is not everywhere up to the proper standards. The training of some class leaders, both theoretical and methodological, needs to be seriously improved. Insufficient use is made of technical means of propaganda. Not all educational measures evoke interest among people. This obliges political organs and party organizations to deal more specifically with improving the quality of all educational practice. The following thought was clearly voiced at the conference: The implementation of the CPSU Central Committee June Plenum's demand that ideological work be the concern of every communist must be the subject of stricter control.

Of course, the elimination of the shortcomings that still exist and the achievement of new successes can be ensured by the energetic improvement of internal party work, the education of communists, the development of criticism and self-criticism, the precise organization of verification of execution and control, and the enhancement of the initiative, activeness, and principledness of party organizations. And the main thing here is to increase exactingness toward communists. The following figures were cited: One in ten communists in the district reported during the accountability period to his party organization on his fulfillment of party and service duties, and conversations were held with one in four on particular issues. Selection for the party has improved. Suffice it to say that 95 percent of those joining the party are graded excellent in combat and political training.

The conference delegates spoke with alarm of facts of a different kind. One-third of companies and batteries having their own party organizations or party groups produce only satisfactory results in combat training. Is this not because the communists in certain party collectives lack a sense of personal responsibility, activeness, and purposefulness in their work, while some secretaries lack organizational experience? Their education and training are an important task for political organs.

The conference was addressed by Army General A. Yepishev, chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate. He dwelt in detail on the tasks of political organs and party organizations stemming from the decisions of the 26th party congress and the CPSU Central Committee November (1982) and June (1983) Plenums and the directions of Comrade Yu.V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, concerning defense questions, an analysis of the contemporary military-political situation in the world, and the requirements of the reliable defense of the socialist motherland and the cause of socialism.

He emphasized that it is the duty of party organizations to make every serviceman aware of all the acuteness and explosiveness of the present situation and to resolutely counter any manifestations of equanimity and complacency. It must be constantly remembered that the threat of a nuclear war being launched by the imperialists is a grim reality of the present day. Under these conditions the prime task of party organizations is to raise the combat readiness of the Armed Forces to a qualitatively new level. They are called upon to use the forms and methods at their disposal to enhance cadres' responsibility for combat readiness and to ensure the effectivenss of each study class and the full utilization of the potential of combat equipment and weapons.

A principled assessment must be made of instances of indulgence and oversimplification, formalism in competition, the desire of some leaders to embellish the situation. Those who have lost enthusiasm in their service, contenting themselves with an old store of knowledge and practical habits skills, must be called exactingly to account. It is impermissible when certain officers' level of personal training, not being up to present requirements, starts hindering the improvement of military skill in the units and subunits under their command.

The chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate devoted much attention in his speech to problems of ideological work, noting that it must be conducted not in a vague, general fashion but comprehensively and in close connection with life and the tasks of enhancing vigilance and combat readiness. Its edge must be aimed at overcoming specific shortcomings in combat training and the strengthening of military discipline and at educating servicemen in a spirit of ardent love for the motherland. Party, war, and labor veterans must be more widely involved in this work, and young people in the Army must be tempered using the examples of their lives.

We are justified in speaking of ideological backup for the complex and responsible tasks being resolved by the troops. The comprehensive backup of ideological work itself is equally important. Any omissions in combat readiness, in the organization of combat training, or in the facilities and daily life of troops, any breaches of legality, any deviations from the regulations diminish the effectiveness of educational efforts.

Army General A. Yepishev dwelt on questions of intensifying party influence on the strengthening of military discipline, especially emphasizing the tasks facing party organizations of staffs and control organs in this respect. Today, he said, the party poses with special urgency the question of the leader's role in strengthening discipline and it demands from cadres conscientious execution of their duty and the setting of a moral example for nonparty people and demands from party organizations a principled party evaluation of manifestations of conceit, arrogance, and rudeness and implacability toward instances of the misuse of official positions or breaches of our moral standards.

The CPSU's demands on raising the level of party leadership and the vanguard role of communists actually in their collectives oblige us to constantly seek more effective forms and methods of party work. We must strive to further enhance activeness, initiative, and principledness in the activity of each primary party organization. The recommendations on this score elaborated by the sixth all-Army conference of primary party organization secretaries must be specifically implemented in their daily work.

In conclusion Army Gen A. Yepishev expressed the confidence that the district party organization will do everything to ensure that the military skill of soldiers increases day by day and that the combat readiness of units and formations and their permanent readiness to defend the gains of socialism is enhanced.

The conference was addressed by V. Konotop, first secretary of the Moscow CPSU Obkom.

V. Drugov, first deputy chief of a CPSU Central Committee department, and representatives of local party organs took part in the conference's work.

YEPISHEV ADDRESSES ACADEMY PARTY CONFERENCE

PM222003 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 22 Dec 83 Second Edition p 2

[Colonel Ye. Naumov report: "Concern for the Training of Political Worker Cadres"]

[Text] A party conference was held at the V.I. Lenin Military-Political Academy. The reports by Lieutenant General V. Danilov, chief of the academy's political section, and Colonel Yu. Kalinin, secretary of the political section party commission, and the speeches by Academy Chief Colonel General G. Sredin and Comrades L. Bublik, G. Komlev, V. Samoylenko, M. Belov, I. Chesnokov, and others comprehensively analyzed the party organization's work to further improve the study and educational process, improve ideological activity, and strengthen discipline and organization.

The party conference approved measures to step up party influence on the solution of tasks concerning the training of political worker cadres in light of the stipulations of the 26th party congress and the CPSU Central Committee November (1982) and June (1983) Plenums and the requirements of the USSR defense minister.

The conference was addressed by Army General A. Yepishev, chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate.

Taking part in the conference's work were N. Batarchuk, responsible official of the CPSU Central Committee, and F. Kozyrev-Dal, first secretary of Moscow's Krasnopresnenskiy CPSU Raykom.